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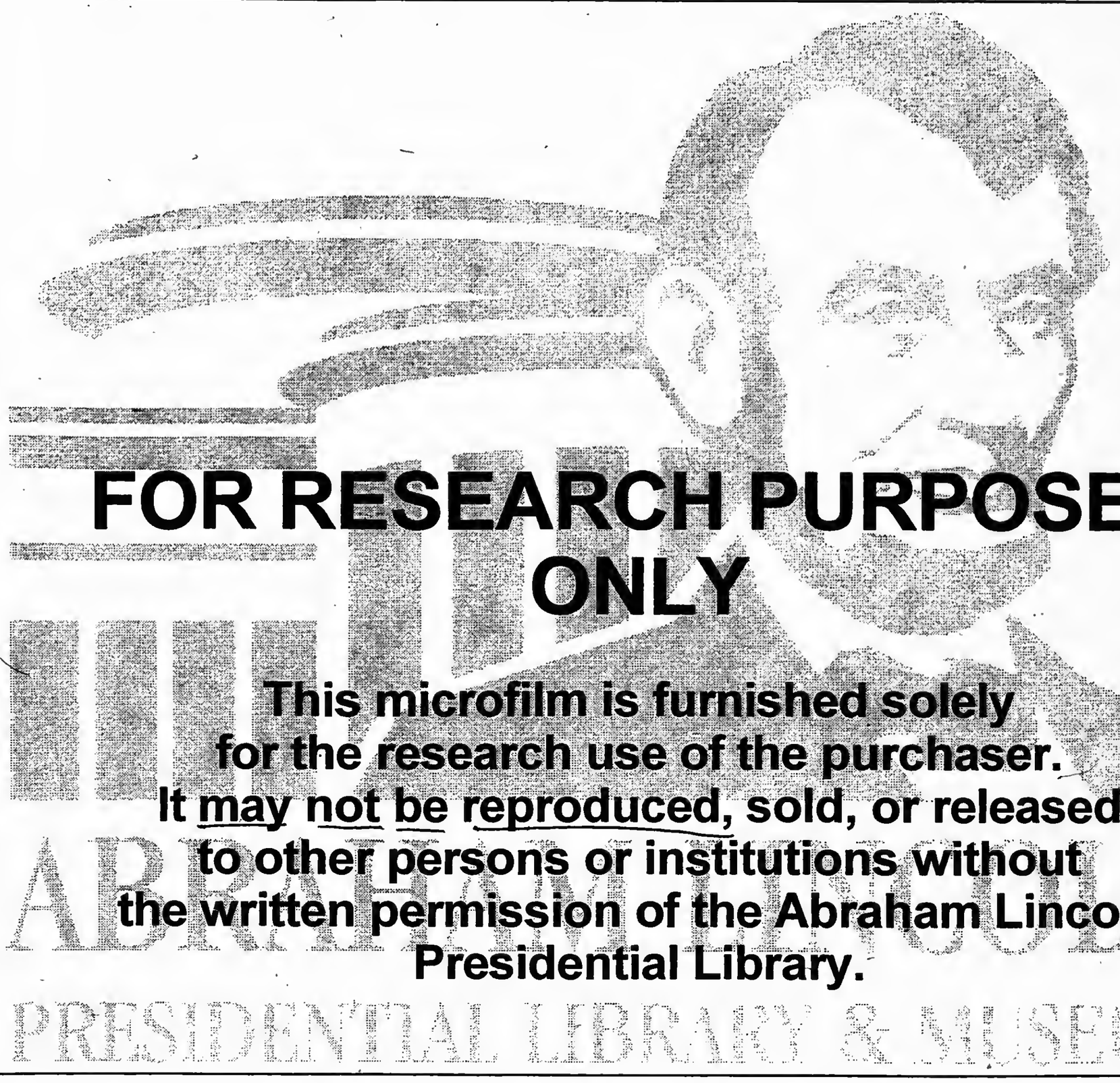

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Village View

Oak Lawn,Illinois

Cook County

From Jan 01, 2013

Thru Dec 17, 2013

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Springfield, Illinois

Village View

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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 39 | Number 13 | January 1, 2013

Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

Hickory Hills task force working for senior residents

by Jan Glaz

At a previous City of Hickory Hills Council Meeting on December 13th a discussion by Mayor Mike Howley and the Aldermen addressed the issue of expanding the City's Senior Center to allow for additional seating, thus reducing the senior waiting list. Another way the city works for resident seniors is through the City of Hickory Hills Senior Taskforce. The taskforce provides: Free cell phones for seniors and those in need for 911 emergency calls only; Free shoes to diabetics with a doctor's prescription; free File or Live emergency packets that can be obtained at the Community Center, 7800 W. 89th Place; free Movie Day on the first and third Thursday of each month at 1 p.m. at the Community Center. Popcorn and soft drinks are provided, or resident seniors can bring their own brown bag lunch; free craft classes are offered on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 1 p.m. at the Community Center.

Plans are underway for a business directory listing merchants who offer senior discounts. For additional information call (708) 237-4158; leave a message for a return call.

It is reported that the Snowy Downhill Egg Hunt, a unique special event is planned on sled hill at Kasey Meadow Park. Participants will gather eggs from the sled hill while traveling down the hill in their inflatable sleigh. Eggs placed on the hill will contain a variety of prizes (candy, McDonald's gift certificates, and wonderful winter treats). Also, enjoy some exciting contests during the evening: longest run, fastest run, knock frosty down, flashlight run, and partner run. A great way to enjoy the entire sled hill for 75 minutes! Hot chocolate will be available after the event. Every participant must have their own sleigh (inflatable raft or inner tube) to participate. Fee: $3/sleigh Resident; $4/sleigh Non-Resident. Date: Friday, January 4 - Friday, January 11 (snow date) Time: 6:00 - 7:15 p.m. Ages: 5 - 14 years (must be accompanied by an adult) Location address: Kasey Meadow Park Hill, Cynthia Neal Center 8047 W. 91st Place: call (708) 598-1233 for information.

Justice vision plan 2030 positive change

by Jan Glaz

On December 19th at the Village of Justice President and Board of Trustees Meeting the agenda listed an update regarding the village's meeting with the Lakota Group, the Steering Committee, and the Zoning Board that occurred on December 17th. The Lakota Group Team is a firm working with the Village of Justice to develop a long-range community vision, which establishes a clear and defined path for future growth and development. This plan will be used by the village as a land use planning and development guide to build, improve and market Justice for the next 20 years. Lakota also provides services that include Landscape Architecture, Historic Preservation and Community Relations. The firm's approach is reflected in its name, which is a Native American word meaning allies. Lakota's professionals share a strong respect for the land and built environment, a sense of community and a desire to bring people together to work as allies for positive change. All are welcome to check out the Justice Vision Plan: 2030 at http://www.thelakotagroup.com/justice/.

Noteworthy: At a recent Board of Trustees Meeting Clerk Kathy Svoboda spoke about witnessing a true act of charity and respect. A senior-citizen (resident) called and asked for a referral for a company to rod her sewer-line. Svoboda called the building department to provide a few vendors and gave her three names. The citizen chose a company .The service was performed and she paid the bill. Upon their leaving, the homeowner commented that she had just lost her son and she was gathering his personal effects to be boxed and donated. The company plumber noted the car in the driveway displaying a Bronze Star; the lady's son was a Viet Nam Vet and a hero. The following day, a call came from the company to say that they were refunding her charges in full. Even the small tip she had given to the plumber. The plumbing company wanted to honor her son's service to his country. Plumbing Express of Frankfort has earned the respect of Clerk Svoboda and it will be easy to recommend them in the future due to their community spirit and the phenomenal way they treated a village resident. Kathy's words, "Kudos to Plumbing Express!"

Oak Lawn approves balanced budget for 2012

by Matt Mayer

Officials at a recent Oak Lawn Board of Trustees meeting approved the General Fund for 2012 a budget of $53,557,700 for 2012 was approved which equates to approximately $13.98 million over the previous year. A balanced budget is required by state constitution and village manager Larry Deetjen has been struggling with a $3 million short fall, which he contributes to increased public safety and pension costs.

In an effort to reduce the shortfall the board approved an ordinance creating an operations tax for the parking lot and parking garage at Advocate Christ Hospital Medical center as well as a "community health services fee" ordinance, which is slated to generate $700,000 in village revenue. Advocate Lutheran General Hospital has a similar agreement with Park Ridge.

These ordinances will go into effect after the expansion is completed, Deetjen said. Advocate Medical Center will have a choice of which one of the two fees to implement, negating the other ordinance. Both ordinances are described as "the cost of doing business" in Oak Lawn, taking into consideration Advocate Christ Medical Center's impact to police and fire services as well as the impact on infrastructure. "I'm giving them an option to decide what's best for the hospital," said Deetjen. "From all the feed back that I have received from parties in Park Ridge where Advocate has had a financial relationship for years, this is the way to go," said Deetjen.

Mayor Dave Heilmann said he received a letter from Advocate Christ Hospital CEO Ken Lukhard requesting that the board table the vote on the ordinances for 30 days so there can be further discussion. "I think we should give them that courtesy given that the village has had a positive relationship with them", said Heilmann. Deetjen said he mentioned the proposed parking tax to Lukhard on Nov. 3 and received no response from the medical center. Trustee Tom Phelan (D-6) said "Advocate Christ Medical Center has had that opportunity since Nov. 3. The parking garage tax isn't a last minute idea. They're communicating on everything that's beneficial to them such as expediting plans, zoning variances and permits for Advocate Christ Hospitals new ambulatory pavilion but since something is not beneficial to them there is a month-long non responsiveness", said Phelan.

City of Chicago to pass along water rate increase to Evergreen Park

by Matt Mayer

Mayor James Sexton announced at the brief Dec. 17 Evergreen Park Board of Trustees meeting that the City of Chicago is increasing water rates by 15 percent to $0.37 per 1,000 gallons effective Jan. 1, 2013. In other announcements: A public hearing will take place on Jan. 7 at 7:30 p.m. in the municipal building council chambers, regarding a discussion and approval of the appropriation ordinance for fiscal year beginning Nov. 1, 2012 to Oct. 31, 2013.

A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 8 in the council chambers regarding the rezoning of 9514 and 9515 S. Harding Avenue from "A" to "C" and a special use for a proposed Walgreen's on 9501, 9513, 9517 S. Pulaski Road, and 3939-3941 W. 95th Street, and 9514 S. Harding Avenue. The Ice Rink is open for public skating, hockey and private parties. Hours of operation may be obtained by contacting the recreation department at 708.229.3373.

Other highlights: The board approved a police department request to purchase the following vehicles: five Ford Police Interceptors and three 2013 Utility Police Interceptor vehicles from Landmark Ford, Springfield IL.

In other village news: Evergreen Park girls softball registration is available online at www.epgirlsoftball.com. Payment is not due when registering online. Filled out registration forms may be presented at the Hamilton B. Maher Community Center, 3450 W. 97th Street on one of the following payment dates: Wednesday, Jan 16 from 7-9 p.m.; Saturday Jan 19 from 9 a.m.- noon; Saturday, Jan 26. The new board is also in need of volunteers. Interested individuals may email info@epgirlssoftball.com.

Pictured are Marco Rodriguez (from Heart of Chicago), Principal Jim Muting, and Patrick Haugh (from Orland Park) on the bus full of coats.

St. Laurence holds successful coat drive

St. Laurence High School recently completed a coat drive where students, faculty, and staff brought in extra coats from home for those in need this winter. This was the second year St. Laurence had a coat drive, and they collected a bus full of coats this year. Thanks to everyone's participation, they were able to collect twice as many coats as last year. On Monday, they loaded a bus and brought the coats to Worth Township, which will distribute them to families in need.

Village View

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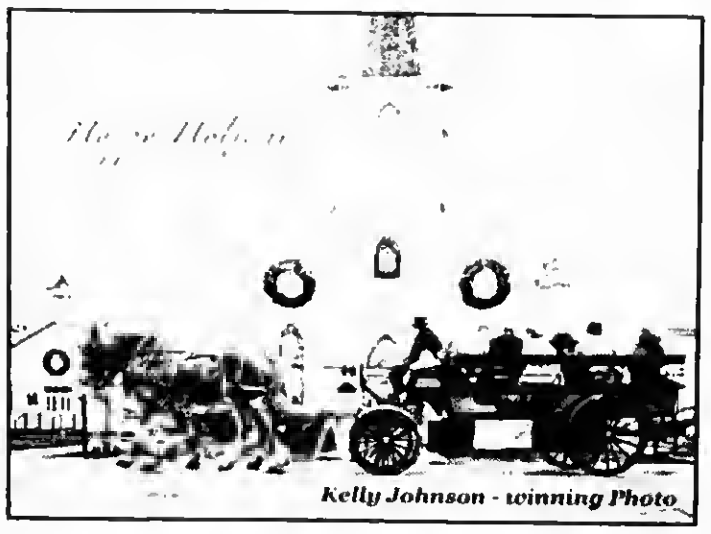
FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 1 | January 1, 2013

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park



Kelly Johnson - winning Photo

Tinley Park will abate entire tax levy

by Jan Glaz

An Ordinance agreeing to abate all of the 2012 tax levy requirements as provided for in the bond order dated January 26, 2012, in connection with the issuance of $5,235,000 general obligation refunding bonds, Series 2012, met with full board approval at the December 19th Village of Tinley Park Board of Trustees Meeting. The 2012 tax levy for this bond issue is established at $713,600 and the Village is in a position to abate the entire amount of this levy with $358,941 derived from the Village's Water and Sewer Revenue Fund, $214,080 from the Storm Water Management Fund and $140,579 from the Surtax Capital Projects Fund.

The Village reported that the required levy's to pay outstanding bonds and interest is being reduced by approximately $5.3 million, which translates into reduced property taxes. "We believe that earmarking certain revenues each year to pay our bonds helps to keep our property taxes lower, and is a better practice than raising taxes and then giving rebates," said Mayor Ed Zabrocki. "That money should stay where it belongs from the beginning... with our residents." Bonds were issued to build the new 80th Avenue Train Station, Convention Center, and a number of water sewer and flood control projects.

Breaking down the numbers, over the past 10 years the annual average residential tax savings generated by abatements on homes with a market value between $150,000 and $350,000 is between $62 and $163. During this same period, homeowners have received and benefited from cumulative savings of between $971 and $2,378 on the Village portion of their tax bill because of the abatements, which have totaled over $30.5 million for the past 10 years.

Accolades: Kelly Johnson's picture of an Old Fashioned Carriage passing by the Old Zion Landmark Church, current home of the Tinley Park Historical Society, from a past holiday season is the winner of the 2012 Community Holiday Card Photography Contest. Eight artists sent in over 20 photos to the Village to be entered into the contest. Mayor Edward J. Zabrocki presented a commemorative plaque and Kelly accepted amidst photos and applause.

Oak Forest incurs a 16 percent water rate increase

by Jan Glaz

An ordinance passed by the City of Oak Forest at the City Council Meeting held on December 18th reflects the 16% increase Water Rate cost of water supplied by Chicago via Oak Lawn. The increase amount of $.439 per 1,000 gallons is effective January 01, 2013. The City of Chicago increase is $.376 and the Oak Lawn increase is $.063. The impact to an average resident would be an additional $13 per quarter. The proposed rate only addresses the increase from the supplier so it is a pass through increase and does not address several key issues which the city is facing with their water and sewer system, such as a need to implement a program to upgrade its infrastructure on a routine basis, identify water losses of approximately 30% and declining sales of over 11% since Fiscal year 2009. The city contracted with Manhard Consulting to do a comprehensive study of the city's water and sewer rates to help look into these issues. The findings will be presented in the spring.

An amendment to the funding agreement with Metra for the new train station came before the city council and was approved. This amendment corrects an oversight on Metra's part wherein the project was inadvertently shorted by $400,00 in the original funding agreement. Passage of this first amendment to the funding agreement will correct the oversight.

New Business: A Special Use Permit and a Text Amendment was granted for petitioners, Mr. and Ms. Kocis, for Peace of Art, for an art studio with tattooing located at 15337 South Cicero Avenue. The property is currently zoned B-3 Planned Commercial District. The petitioners reside in Oak Forest; they operate Peace of Art in Chicago Heights and have an opportunity to relocate the business in Oak Forest. Many of their current clients are from the Oak Forest area. Peace of Art believes they can better serve their existing clients as well as grow the other part of the business, creating stained glass and painted art.

Orland votes for higher wages

by Jan Glaz

Orland Park Officials adopted a contract Collective Bargaining Agreement - American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO Council 31, Local 368 (AFSCME) agreeing to pay raises totaling 7.8% over four years at the December 17th Village Board of Trustees Meeting. The four-year agreement: 5/1/11 – 4/30/12, 1.75% (retroactive); 5/1/12 – 4/30/13, 2.0% (retroactive); 5/1/13 – 4/30/14, 2.0%; and 5/1/14 – 4/30/15, 2.05%. The Village also agreed to increase the Shift Differential from $0.50 to $0.75 per hour. Other considerations are to increase the Tool Allowance from $500 annual reimbursement to $750 annual reimbursement and provide Bereavement Leave for employees who are eligible.

Focus on Sportsplex: Revised Sportsplex non-resident and corporate rates met with approval; effective January 1, 2013. Sportsplex membership revenue in 2013 is expected to increase by offering competitive non-resident and corporate rates and by employing a new marketing strategy to attract corporate customers. The village reported that the number of non-resident memberships and corporate memberships has steadily declined in recent years. The plan is to revise fee structures and at the same time ensure that the rates stay consistent with the surrounding market. The Recreation Department surveyed several municipal facilities. Of interest: Tinley Park's Park District recently made non-resident fees the same as their resident fees to further appeal to those outside the district. Fees at private facilities in the Orland Park area were also reviewed. The Orland Staff suggested proposed rates include a 10% reduction in Non-Resident rates to bring Sportsplex fees more in line with other area fitness centers. Corporate memberships have consistently been the least utilized membership over the course of the last seven years. As part of the proposed Corporate Rate, the Recreation Department is preparing a 2013 outreach plan to touch the business community including through the economic development partnership with the Chamber of Commerce.

City Council approves 3 percent tax levy increase

Oak Forest City Council approved the 2012 tax levy ordinance. The 2012 tax levy is $8,034,314, resulting in a 3.08 percent increase as compared to the 2011 levy. As a result, homeowners can expect the city's portion of the real estate tax to go up approximately $27.

When determining the levy, the City Council considered several factors, including growing the city's General Fund balance, the allocation of the municipal sales tax revenue, and the number of full-time employees for fiscal year 2014.

"We are proposing a surplus of $500,000 in the General Fund for fiscal year 2014," said Mayor Hank Kuspa. "Our long-term goal is to have $3.5 million in reserves. Strong reserves protect against the need to reduce service levels or raise taxes due to temporary revenue shortfalls. It also strengthens the city's credit rating, which allows the city to benefit from lower interest rates. The projected surplus is a move in the right direction."

The $1.1 million in municipal sales tax revenue will be divided equally to fund annual operating expenses, economic development opportunities and capital improvements. The number of full-time employees for fiscal year 2014 will remain at 117.

Village View

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SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 14 | Number 1 | January 1, 2013

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Palos Heights amending motor fuel taxes

by Matt Mayer

Officials at the Dec. 18 Palos Heights City Council meeting approved a request to amend the resolution for the 2003 Motor Fuel Tax expenditures from $110,000.00 to $160,063.20 in accordance with the Illinois Department of Transportation's (IDOT's) final report. A request to reduce the 2012 Road Program from $23,445.07 to $10,000.00 along with the issuance of a payment to Brothers Asphalt Paving Inc. for $13,445.07 was approved. A request to modify the 2012 MFT expenditure resolution for the Harlem Avenue and Ishnala Signal Phase III engineering for $16,862.66 was approved as well as a request to modify the 2012 MFT expenditures resolution for Phase III of the Harlem Avenue lighting project for $34,004.13.

A request from the Director of Parks and Recreation to amend the program fee schedule to allow the facility and staff of School District 128 to enroll in fitness classes at the recreation center at resident rates in conjunction with their newly created Employee Wellness Program was approved with the stipulation that they can't register for classes until the non resident dates. A payment request for the first payment to KEE Construction LLC for $172,063.37 for the work completed on the Community Park project was also approved.

A request to adopt an amendment to the City's 125 Cafeteria Plan in accordance with IRS regulations was approved. A request for a temporary sign permit submitted by School District 128 for (25) two foot x three-foot signs for their annual Spring Into Fitness Run/Walk on April 13, 2013 was approved with the stipulations that signs must not be installed any earlier than March 1, 2013, and be removed by April 15, 2013. A deposit of $750.00 is required.

Worth approves energy supplier contract

by Matt Mayer

Officials at the Dec. 18 Worth Board of Trustees meeting approved a three-year contract with First Energy Solutions. Dennis Brennan, a principle with Illinois Energy Aggregation (IEA) the energy broker that worked with the village to secure an independent energy supplier, told the board that the firm sent bids to 21 licensed suppliers and received eight responses.

IEA secured a rate of 5.3 cents per kilowatt-hour as opposed to ComEds 8.36 cents per kilowatt-hour. The new rate is slated to save each household $217 per year. The rate will also apply to small businesses that use less than 15,000 kilowatts per year, said Brennan.

Residents and businesses have 21 days to opt out of the new program; otherwise they will automatically be enrolled in the program. Residents or business owners who are currently enrolled in an independent supplier contract must cancel if they want to be entered into the village program, said Brennan.

Residents that are in the village program will begin seeing electricity savings in 2013, said Brennan.

ComEd will continue to be responsible for the following: supplying electricity through their power lines; repairs; correcting power outages; reading meters; billing statements. Everything will virtually remain the same except for the supplier line on the statement.

Moraine Valley offers online and Internet hybrid learning for college credit

Can't always get to campus? Want to learn from home? Then Moraine Valley Community College's online and Internet hybrid courses may be the answer. More than 250 classes are offered during the 2013 spring semester.

Online classes are taught primarily over the Internet, while Internet hybrid courses are taught through a combination of classroom and Web-based instruction. Both types allow for students to attend all or part of their class via the Internet with the ability to access the instructor, classmates and course materials. Access to a Web-equipped computer is required.

Some of the online and Web-assisted classes this spring include Spanish, General Sociology, World Religions, Environmental Science I, Introduction to Fiction, Beginning Algebra, Western Civilization I and II, Medical Terminology, Composition I and II, and General Biology, among others.

A complete listing of credit and noncredit classes can be found in the spring 2013 class schedule or online at morainevalley.edu. Registration is ongoing. Tuition is $104 per credit hour plus fees and books. Students who have applied to the college can register in the Registration Office, located on campus in the Student Services Center (Building S), 9000 W. College Pkwy. in Palos Hills; by phone at (708) 974-2110 (TTY for the hearing impaired 708-974-9556); or online at morainevalley.edu.

4th Annual Ice Skate Under the Stars

Friday, January 11th, 2013 at Glacier Park, 101st and 78th Ave., Palos Hills from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Sponsored by 4th Ward Alderman Ricky Moore and Alderman Joe Marrotta.

The ice will be divided in half, with a pick-up hockey game on one side and family skating on the other.

Hot chocolate will be served and there will be warming fires.

A great family event.

Remember to bring your own skates.

For more information call (708) 277-4562.

Santa visits Worth

Clerk Bonnie Price and Santa made the rounds in Worth. They were accompanied by the Worth Police Department and North Palos Fire Department. Onlookers received candy canes from the Clerk and Santa!

Palos Senior Club meets

12:00 pm to 2:00 pm January 14, 2013

Residents and non-residents over the age of 60 are invited to join the Palos Park Senior Club. Meetings are held the second Monday of each month from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the lower level of the Recreation Center, 8901 W. 123rd Street, Palos Park, IL, to share information and ideas. Lunch will be served for a small fee meeting. If you would like to join the club or have some suggestions, please call at 708-480-4103.

Doors open at 11:00 am. Those wishing to order lunch are asked to call 708-480-4103 no later than Thursday before the meeting.

Village View

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B-MAC EDITION

Volume 7 | Number 1 | January 1, 2013

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Real estate taxes rise 4.59 percent in Alsip

by Jan Glaz

Alsip officials confirmed a real estate tax increase of 4.59% at the December 17th Village of Alsip Board Meeting after Finance Director Trustee Quinn introduced an Ordinance Levying Taxes for General Corporate and Special Purposes for the Fiscal Year Beginning May 01, 2012 and ending April 30, 2013. Trustee Ryan announced the water rate in Alsip will increase by 15% beginning January 01, 2013. Currently the village purchases water at $2.08 per 1000 gallons of water, the increase is reported to be approximately .37 cents per 1000 gallons.

A request for the purchase of a replacement GPS locating device made by Trimble, budgeted in at a cost not to exceed $7695.00 met with approval. Trustee McGreal made the motion and explained that the data program GPS locating device will also be utilized for state of Illinois new data inventory: traffic control, street lighting and sewer inventory.

Trustee Shapiro announced that the public is invited to an open house February 13, 2013 from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Apollo Recreation Center to listen to a presentation regarding new plans and current issues facing Alsip and Alsip's vision for the future. "Everyone is welcome to share their ideas and comments as to where we can move forward, this includes residential areas, commercial areas, industrial areas, mobility and national environments," said Shapiro. Mayor Kitching added, "This is the last chance for comments on our plans. We've been working very diligently with people who care, that want to help us plan for the future of Alsip."

Dylan Scanlon (right) delights in his creation as his grandmother, Peg Araujo, assists him during an event at Nathan Hale Pre-K Center in Crestwood where students and their family members created gingerbread houses.

Trustee Dalzell shared news regarding the Alsip Fire Department: The Alsip Fire Department acknowledged and presented a plaque to Griffith Laboratories for their generous donation. Griffith Labs is providing a $4000.00 donation for the purchase of a new tripod for the fire department's technical rescue team. The tripod is used for confined space rescue incidents. Additionally, the components used in the stand of the tripod can also be used for structural collapse and trench rescue incidents.

Midlothian competes for grant money

by Jan Glaz

On December 26th, at Village of Midlothian Board of Trustees Meeting, Community Development Director Trustee Karen Kreis was happy to report that she received a confirmation letter from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) of their receipt of the village's application for the 2013 Illinois Green Infrastructure Grant Program. The approximate grant amount is $75,000. There were a total of 65 applications received requesting approximately $28 million. The letter stated that additional information from the village may be required by the EPA by July 01st.

Kreis also reported news regarding the RFP/Q for US EPA Village of Midlothian Brownfield Community-Wide Assessment Grant: Hazardous Substances and Petroleum Products. Midlothian has adopted a Comprehensive Plan and a Transit-Oriented Development Plan to recreate the Village's downtown transit-oriented development area and revitalize the Village's commercial districts based on outlined redevelopment strategies. In 2012, the Village of Midlothian was awarded a US EPA Community-Wide Assessment Grant for the inventory and environmental assessment of various properties located throughout the Village: $200,000 Brownfields Assessment Grant – Hazardous Substances; $200,000 Brownfields Assessment Grant – Petroleum Sites. Karen Kreis informed the board of trustees that nine consulting firms had responded regarding grant requirements for the submission deadline date on December 21, 2012. Records will be created and maintained for each property where CA funds are utilized. Quarterly progress reports will be prepared by an Environmental Consultant and submitted to the Village/US EPA on a quarterly basis. These reports will describe the progress on each defined task in the Work Plan and additional information as required in the Terms and Conditions of the Cooperative Agreement. Finalists will be selected around January 7, 2013; Consultant Interviews Mid-January, 2013, and selection of Consultant by the end of January, 2013. "All of these grants are extremely competitive. Keep your fingers crossed," said Karen

Trustee Schavone updated the city council regarding the renovation of the village chambers before the meeting adjourned. Schavone said the chambers should open in approximately one month as everything is functioning as planned

Crestwood continues to grow

by Jan Glaz

Four new business received heads up December 20th at the Crestwood Village Board of Trustees Meeting. They are listed as: J & J Auto Body Center, a series of Auto Body Holding, LLC, to operate an auto body repair shop with indoor overnight parking, located at 4611 W. 136th Street; a Special Use Ordinance will be prepared by the Village Attorney for Kimberly Bell for Zen Innovative Healthcare, located at 4701 Midlothian, Turnpike, Suites 6 & 7 to permit a home health agency with vocational training; Jami Douglas received a Special Use Permit for a Real Estate and Property Management Company located at 4711 Midlothian Turnpike Suite 17; and at 14004-14006 S. Kildare Avenue a Special Use Permit was approved at the request of Ken Webster for Auto Repair and Body Work. There will be no more than 3 parked cars allowed outside the premises. "Four new businesses and we have a lot more calling us, so we're doing very, very well," said Mayor Robert Stranczek.

It is reported that small and large businesses, nationwide chains and service based businesses are attracted to the amenities Crestwood provides such as tax incentives, a central location adjacent to the Tollway, and a well-run community. Ultra Foods and the Party Store opened recently, coming soon: Ross Dress for Less; O'Reilly Auto Parts and a much anticipated opening of Chipotle Mexican Grill, to be located at 131st and Cicero.

Before the meeting adjourned the Board of Trustees accepted an ordinance of the Village of Crestwood Regulating Patrolmen's Salaries and approved the appointment of Matthew Ronan as Part- Time Police Officer and George Heinen to the Crestwood Fire Department. Two required bond fees were waived: a Raffle and Chance License Application for Redhawk Hockey Association at Charity Bingo and a Raffle License for Crestwood Emergency Management Association for their 2013 annual raffle.

Blue Island events

Open House & Home Movie Night

Embark on a Blue Island history scavenger hunt to test your knowledge of the uptown businesses with prizes for the most correct answers! Also Albee House and Museum tours, a Tea Party and more! Bring your old 8mm home movies (especially for any old footage of Blue Island events) and they'll show them in the evening. Popcorn and projectors will be provided. On Sunday, January 27, 2013 at 12 noon to 4 p.m. At Blue Island Historical Society Albee House, on 13018 S. Maple Ave.Blue Island, IL.

Interview with A. Lincoln

The Blue Island Historical Society in cooperation with the Blue Island Public Library is sponsoring an interview with A. Lincoln. A free ticket is required and may be picked up at the Library. On Tuesday, January 29, 2013 at 7 p.m. Blue Island Public Library, 2433 York Street, Blue Island, IL.

Lipinski Presents Oak Lawn Veteran With Korean War Medals

U.S. Rep. Dan Lipinski (IL-3) recently presented Oak Lawn veteran Army Cpl. Gust Peterson with three medals he earned for his service in the Korean War six decades ago. Lipinski personally pinned the Army Good Conduct Medal on Peterson during a ceremony attended by Peterson's family and U.S. Army personnel at the congressman's Chicago district office.

"I'm honored to participate in this important day for Cpl. Peterson and his family, and proud that my office was able to get him the medals he earned but never received," Lipinski said. "Our veterans have fought valiantly for our nation. It is a top priority of mine that they receive the proper recognition for the sacrifices they have made on our behalf."

Peterson served in the U.S. Army in 1953 and 1954. He had contacted Lipinski's office for help obtaining the medals he had earned for his service in the Korean War.

In addition to the Army Good Conduct Medal recognizing exemplary conduct, efficiency, and fidelity during his period of service, Peterson received the Korean Defense Service Medal from the U.S. Army and the Korean War Service Medal from the Republic of Korea. Peterson also was given a letter of appreciation from the President of the Republic of Korea.

Peterson lives in Oak Lawn with his wife of 60 years, Norma. Together, they have four children and three grandchildren.

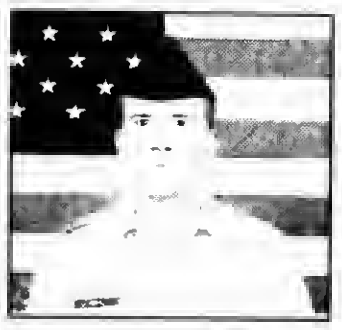
Hometown news

Air National Guard Airman Daniel C. Duda graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Duda is the son of



Thomas Duda of Swaps Court, Orland Park, and grandson of Marge Duda of South 84th Court, Hickory Hills.

He is a 2008 graduate of Lockport Township High School. He earned a bachelor's degree in 2012 from Governors State University, Richton Park.

Army Sgt. Tawana L. Davenport was part of a U.S. Army Pacific task force that participated in training near Sendi, Japan with the Japanese Ground Self Defense Force.

The training was part of an annual bilateral exercise between American and Japanese forces called Yama Sakura.

The exercise focuses on the development and refinement of the JGSDF and U.S. Army Pacific by exchanging ideas, tactics, techniques and experiences while building new and lasting friendships. It is one of the foundations of U.S. and Japanese defense cooperation, and is U.S. Army Pacific's premier bi-lateral command post exercise.

Both forces serve a support role to civil governments and agencies and must be able to work efficiently with organizations, that may have dissimilar operating habits or procedures.

Davenport is a cable maintainer and installer assigned to the 78th Signal Battalion, 287th Signal Company at Camp Zama, Japan. The sergeant has served in the military for eight years.

She is the daughter of Ruth Lee of Oxford Place, Greenville, Miss.

Davenport graduated in 1996 from Dwight D Eisenhower, Blue Island, Ill.

Frosty 5k run and 1 mile walk

Join the Burbank Park District at its annual Frosty 5K Run / 1 Mile Walk. Long-sleeved T-shirts will be given to all participants. Awards will be presented to overall winners and 1st/2nd place winners in each age category. This race route is TZC certified.

At Newcastle Park, 8050 S. Newcastle, Burbank on Saturday, January 19, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. start. The fee for runners is $20.00 by January 12, 2013, $25.00 after January 12, 2013, walkers is $15.00.

You can register by using the registration form below, or you can access our online registration system using the link on the right side of our website home page. There will be onsite race day registration starting at 7:30 a.m. Contact our offices at 708-599-2070 with questions.

Business Unwrapped Discusses Blogging

Learn How to Build a Successful Business Blog

Bring your lunch to Business Unwrapped on Friday, January 11 from 11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Orland Park Public Library which is located at 14921 South Ravinia Avenue. Business Unwrapped will discuss ways to build a successful Blog. Speaker Rebecca Palumbo, owner of Rollins Palumbo Creative, will share suggestions on how to make your Blog stand out and attract new readers and clients to your site.

Business Unwrapped is a joint seminar series between the Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce and the Orland Park Public Library. The speakers and topics discussed each month are business related and participants are encouraged to bring their lunch and learn. The seminar series runs from September through May. Attendance is free and all are welcome to attend. For more information on future topics or to RSVP for the January session, please visit the chamber's website at www.orlandparkchamber.org or call the Chamber office at (708) 349-2972.

Swing'n Sugar Squares square dances

Swing'n Sugar Squares Club dances for experienced square and round dancers, will continue to be held second and fourth Thursdays at Evergreen Park Central Junior High School, 95th and Spaulding, Evergreen Park, at 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm.

Ron Ashenden will cue the Round Dances which are also danced at Square Dances.

Thursday, Jan 10, Snowflake Ball, Mike Richard, Caller

Thursday, Jan 24, Country Hoedown Student Dance, Ozzie Pearl, Caller

Thursday, Feb 14, Be My Valentine, Tom Davis, Caller

Thursday, Feb 28, Favorite Decade in 20th Century, Bob Asp, Caller

For more information or questions call Terry at 773-351-1948 or Hank at 773-238-5496 or visit swinginsugarsquares.com. Sponsored by Evergreen Park Recreation Department.

Fundraiser at Potbelly Sandwich Shop to benefit Veterans Memorial Middle School students

Veterans Memorial Middle School will be holding a fundraiser on Thursday, January 17 at the Potbelly Sandwich Shop located at 13134 S. Cicero Avenue in Crestwood. From 4 to 7 pm, 25 percent of all sales will be donated to help support the Veterans Memorial Middle School eighth grade Washington, D.C. trip. Treat your family to toasty warm sandwiches and support Veterans Memorial Middle eighth graders! For additional information, please contact Vicki Cole at 708-489-8342 or email vcole@district130.org.

Photos by Wehmeier Portraits

Keith and Mary Vacey, owners of My Baby Bump, accept congratulations from Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce President Tami Khuntia and Village of Orland Park Trustee Ed Schussler. The Orland Park Chamber of Commerce participated in a ribbon cutting celebration held at My Baby Bump's newly opened office. My Baby Bump Ltd. is located at 15010 S. Ravinia Avenue, Suite 19 in Orland Park and offers a comfortable, non-medical 3D 4D ultrasound experience for parents-to-be and their invited loved ones.

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We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

D.A.R.E. Role Model Award winners (front row, from left) Zoe Schultz, Roeio Gonzalez, Alan Arriaga, Isabel Esparza and Angel Estrada display their awards with tback row, from left) Dr. Raymond Lauk, superintendent, Lynne Arendziak, Board of Education president, Carl Gmazel, principal of Paul Revere Intermediate School, and Officer LaSalle King after the D.A.R.E. gradnation ceremony at Paul Revere Intermediate School.

District 130 honors graduates of D.A.R.E. program

Fifth graders at Whittier and Paul Revere Intermediate Schools in Blue Island took the D.A.R.E. (Drug Ahuse Resistanee Education) pledge to stay off drugs as they graduated from the nine week program. This year millions of students around the world will benefit from D.A.R.E., the highly acclaimed program that gives students the skills they need to avoid involvement in drugs, alcohol, gangs, and violenee. Founded in Los Angeles in 1983, D.A.R.E. is a police officer-led series of elassroom lessons that teaches students how to resist peer pressure and live productive drug and violence-free lives.

Led by Officer LaSalle King of the Blue Island Police Department, the program taught students the importance of making wise decisions and staying drug free in order to become successful adults. The requirements to graduate from the D.A.R.E. program include participation, completing a workbook, and writing an essay. King also stressed the importance of parent involvement and reinforcing the program at home.

At the graduation festivities, essay winners read their winning pieces aloud while others created PowerPoint presentations to accompany their essays, a select group of students were chosen by their peers to receive the D.A.R.E. Role Model Award, additional students received the D.A.R.E. Workbook Award for neatly completing their workbooks and the presentation of certificates capped off each ceremony. Parents board members, and administrators were also on hand to congratulate the graduates.

"It's the most enjoyahle job any police officer can have," said King when addressing the graduates about his experience teaching the D.A.R.E. program.

Cook County School District 130 serves nearly 4,100 students at thirteen school sites. The district serves portions of the communities of: Alsip, Blue Island, Crestwood and Robbins.

Upcoming adult programs at the Acorn Public Library District

Thursday January 10th

7:00 Taking Care of Your Feet: A Tour of Podiatrie Medieine

As part of our Commnnity Health Education series, we are offering yon a chance to meet a local podiatrist: Dr Conway McLean, DPM. Dr. McLean will give a lecture titled, "Taking Care of Your Feet: A Tour of Podiatrie Medieine". Come learn about how to take care of your feet and meet a local doctor.

Saturday January 26th

2:30 Acorn Readers

The Acorn Readers' Party is your chanee to talk about your favorite book and hear about others' favorites while enjoying free pizza.

Each person will have 3 minutes to share their book in front of the group. Please bring a library copy, if possible. Limit: One book per patron.

There is no registration required, but the Readers' Party is limited to ages 13+

Thursday January 31st

7:00 College Funding Strategies

Do you have a specific plan in place for how you will pay for your children's college education? Do you know how to lower your out-of-poeket college costs? Come hear Ron Rago of College Funding Strategies diseuss how to plan for this important stage of your child's life.

The Aeorn Publie Library District is located at 15624 S. Central Avenue, Oak Forest. For more information, call 708-687-3700.

Evergreen Park seniors meeting

The next Evergreen Park Senior Citizens' Council meeting, luncheon, and program will be held Thursday, January 17, 2013 at 11:30 a.m. at the Evergreen Park Senior Center, 9547 S. Homan Ave, Evergreen Park, IL.(with ample parking in rear).

After a catered luncheon, the program will feature professional appraiser Rex Newell. He specializes in coins, watches and artwork. He will appraise one handheld item for the first 40 people to register when purchasing a ticket

Please purchase your ticket ($6 each) at OCS, 3450 W 97th Street, Evergreen Park, IL., (ticket deadline: Monday before event). For more information, phone 708- 422-8776.

Record Collectors show in Orland Park

For those who love the sound that comes off a phonograph needle or the cover art on an album cover jacket the Orland Park Record Collector's Show is the place to he on Saturday, January 12th, 2013.

Thousands of original albums and 45's are just some of the offerings from this 40 table show. Special Guest K-Hits 104.3 radio featuring music from the 60's to 80's will be on site presenting giveaways and prizes, activities, games and more to those in attendanee.

The show will take place at the Georgio's Comfort Inn located at 8800 W. 159th St. Show hours start at 9 a.m. till 3 p.m Admission is $3 but free to children 12 & younger. For more information call (773) 585-6254.

Two Smith CCRCs to hold free support meetings for caregivers and families of people with dementia

Caregivers and families of seniors living with Alzheimer's disease or dementia can get together with others in the Southland who share their concerns at a free gathering either Thursday, Jan. 3 at Smith Crossing in Orland Park or Tuesday, Jan. 8 at Smith Village in Chicago's Beverly neighborhood. Both sessions begin at 6:30 p.m.

The hour-long meetings at the two continuing care retirement communities are open to the public and, before the meetings end, light refreshments will be served.

On Jan 3, Smith Crossing will hold a Q&A session for its regular monthly meeting at 10501 Emilie Lane in Orland Park (enter at 104th Avenue and 183rd Street). Advanee reservations are required and can be made hy calling 708-326-2300.

Jan. 8, Smith Village at 2320 W. 113th Place in Chieago will screen a short film, "Complaints of a Dutiful Daughter," which chronicles a child's journey toward accepting her mom's illness.

After the film, memory support coordinator Diane Morgan will take questions from the floor.

To reserve a seat, please call 773-474-7300 or respond online at SmithVillage.org.

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Adults can get in the know at a Moraine Valley Career Paths and Coffee session

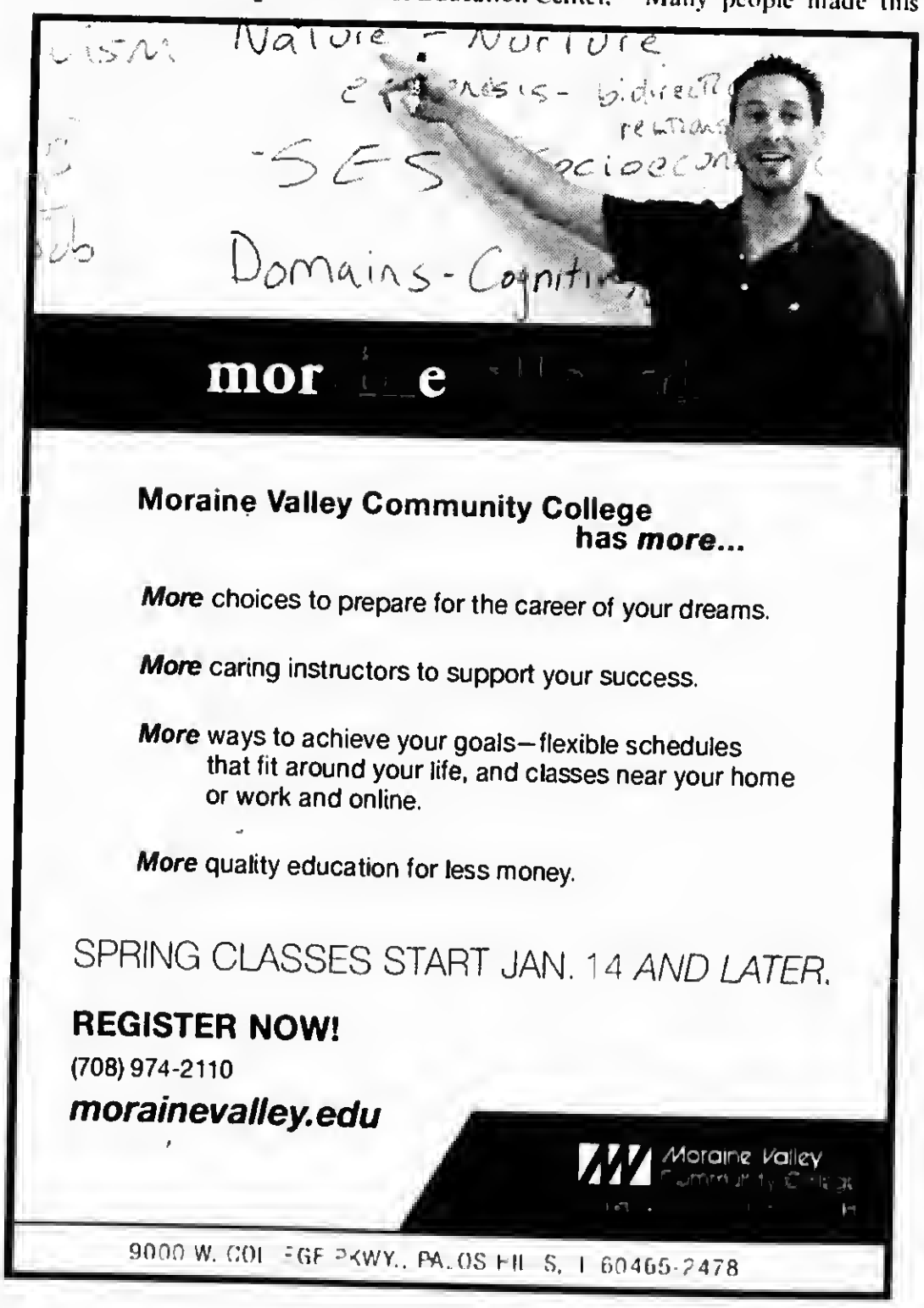
Grab a cup of coffee, take a seat and settle in as you learn how to become a student at Moraine Valley Community College through "Career Paths and Coffee." Whether it's been years since you've stepped in a classroom and you're ready to get back to academia or you're looking to improve job skills or change careers, there's no time like the present to join other adults and discover what's possible for your future at this free event.

The hour-long adult information session is the first step for adults to learn about programs and resources at Moraine Valley in a relaxed setting. This is an opportunity to get a sense of the college scene before committing to coursework. Adults also have the opportunity to get help registering and enrolling in classes. Staff will discuss top hot careers to pursue, where the jobs are and what programs can help students get there.

Moraine Valley is offering "Career Paths and Coffee" sessions on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., on Jan. 9 and 23, Feb. 13, March 20, April 10, May 8, and June 5, in the Student Services Center (Building S), Room S117A, on the main campus, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills.

There also are sessions on other sites on various days including, Jan. 15, March 5 and May 14 at 6:30 p.m., in the college's Education Center at Blue Island, 12940 S. Western Ave.; Jan. 16, March 21 and May 1 at 6 p.m., in the college's Southwest Education Center, 17900 S. 94th Ave. in Tinley Park; and March 14 at 6:30 p.m. in the Midlothian Public Library, 14701 S. Kenton Ave.

For more information, call Moraine Valley's Admissions Office at (708) 974-5759, email Willsd6@morainevalley.edu or visit morainevalley.edu/adultsucceess.



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More ways to achieve your goals—flexible schedules that fit around your life, and classes near your home or work and online.

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Oak Lawn receives Governor's Hometown Award

The partnership of the Oak Lawn Rotary Club and the Village of Oak Lawn have received the 2012 Governor's Hometown Award for their collaboration on the first responder's 911 memorial located next to the Metra Patriot station in the heart of Oak Lawn. Many people made this memorial possible with donations and hard work. We are proud to receive such a prestigious award.

Prairie Trails Public Library District offering free seminars

Jobs and Java

Staff members of the Prairie Trails Public Library District in Burbank, IL are offering free seminars to assist patrons that are seeking employment. There are three seminar topics which will focus on the process of the job search. We will be limiting these sessions to eleven registered participants each to better assist each of you.

Tuesday, Jan. 15 at 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Jobs and Java: On-line job searching

Wednesday, Jan. 16 at 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Jobs and Java: Resumes and interviews

Monday, Jan. 21 at 1:30 p.m. 3 p.m.

Jobs and Java: Basic computer class

Monday, Jan. 21 at 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Jobs and Java: Basic computer class

Wednesday, Jan. 23 at 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Jobs and Java: Resumes and interviews

Wednesday, Jan. 23 at 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Jobs and Java: Resumes and interviews

Tuesday, Jan. 29 at 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Jobs and Java: On-line job searching

Tuesday, Jan. 29 at 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Jobs and Java: On-line job searching

On-line job searching will provide you with resources using today's technology; on-line job boards, databases and the like.

Resumes and interviews will provide you with basic skills and techniques in helping you create your personal resume, as well as interview skills.

Basic computer class will teach you how to use a mouse, how to use databases such as Google and Yahoo, keyword searching and create an e-mail account.

Again, these seminars will be free; however, they will be limited to patrons residing within the two communities – Burbank and Nottingham Park – which the library directly serves – so you will need a Prairie Trails Library card to participate. To register phone the library at (708) 430-3688 and ask for the adult reference desk.

Orland Grassland Volunteers quarterly meeting

Join us January 7 at 7:00 p.m. at the Orland Park Civic Center, 14700 Ravinia Avenue, for the volunteer quarterly meeting. Representatives from the Forest Preserve District of Cook County will be there to present the proposed bike trail placement. We'll be putting together a strategy for 2013 volunteer field activity that includes a return to winter work at Orland, and setting dates for our events. Please join us!

Go to www.orland-grassland.org to find more information, spectacular photos of its many birds and wildflowers, or "Contact Us" with questions. Or, call Pat Hayes, 708-220-9596.

Palos Township Health Service will hold a screening

The Palos Township Health Service will hold a cholesterol screening on Monday, January 7th, 2013 from 8:30 am until 12:30 pm.

A total cholesterol screening is $10 for residents and $15 for non-residents. This test tells only the total cholesterol value. Fasting is preferred.

The cholestech test tells total value, the high density, the low density, the triglyceride value, and the ratios as well as glucose values. Do not eat or drink after midnight the night before the test. A fee of $35 is charged for residents and $5 for non-residents.

A Hemoglobin A1C test can be performed for diabetics which reflects the average blood sugar levels over the previous 3 months. No fasting is required for this test.

The fee is $10 for residents and $15 for non-residents.

All fees are cash [only]. Call the Health Service to schedule an appointment at 708-598-2441. All screenings are done at Palos Township, 10802 S. Roberts Rd. in Palos Hills, IL.

Spartan Swimmer Succeeds at State

Oak Lawn Community High School's Samantha Smolka finished in second place at the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) state swimming finals for athletes with disabilities. Smolka earned second place finishes in both the 50-yard and 100-yard freestyle events. Smolka also had success at the 2012 USA Paralympics Track and Field Games. She finished in second place in the long jump and third place in the discus competition.

Smith Crossing names new medical director

Ming-Yeng Tang M.D. believes a good doctor must have a good heart

Ming-Yeng Tang M.D., 57, has been named medical director at Smith Crossing, a continuing care retirement community (CCRC) located at 10501 Emilie Lane in Orland Park, Ill. She replaces Michael Thomas D.O. who continues to serve as medical director at Smith Village, a sister CCRC located in Chicago's Beverly neighborhood. Both are sponsored and operated by the not-for-profit organization Smith Senior Living.

"With our recent growth to accommodate 60 percent more residents, it was time to divide the responsibilities of medical director so that each campus has its own," states

Frank Guajardo, executive director of Smith Crossing

Dr. Tang, an internist, has treated Smith Crossing residents for more than five years. She also continues her medical practice in Oak Lawn, where she has been for more than 20 years. She is affiliated with Palos Community Hospital in Palos Heights and Advocate Christ Medical Center in Oak Lawn. .

"In her new role, Dr. Tang is responsible for ensuring Smith Crossing continues to provide the highest levels of skilled nursing care and rehabilitation services," says Guajardo. "Because the healthcare field continues to evolve so rapidly, Dr. Tang's thirst for knowledge and her impeccable standards suit her perfectly for this position. Our residents and staff already love her. She's a strong team builder, and she has a wonderful bedside manner."

Dr. Tang's affection for older relatives inspired her to develop a special rapport and gladness in treating older adults. She grew up in Taiwan and completed her medical training at China Medical University. As a teenager, she expressed a desire to do something for relatives who were experiencing health problems. Her father, a school principal, encouraged her decision to help others by practicing medicine.

"I think my greatest strength came in the model of my dad," says Dr. Tang, who was among only nine women in her medical school class of 120. "The most important thing he taught me was that it is essential to help others."

In doing this Dr. Tang goes beyond the norm, offering Smith Crossing residents, who become her patients, around-the-clock access to her by giving them her mobile phone number rather than relying on an answering service. She also likes hearing from patients' family members. "This gives a more complete picture," says Dr. Tang, insisting that understanding a person's lifestyle is essential for prescribing measures to improve health.

"To be a good doctor, you must have a good heart and you must care about people." Dr. Tang says. "I love the people at Smith Crossing. They are like my family. I also appreciate the staff and believe that it takes many people working as a team to provide good care."

Dr. Tang's vision is to make more simple diagnostic procedures available at Smith Crossing, thus affording residents the convenience of not having to leave the community for routine testing.

Dr. Tang moved to Palos Hills in 1985. She and her husband, Juelin Tang M.D., eventually moved to Orland Park where they live today. The couple has three children. Stephanie and Alice both practice medicine in New York. Kendrick is attending college.

De La Salle to hold entrance exam

De La Salle Institute will be holding its annual entrance exam on Saturday, January 12, 2013 at 8 am at its Institute Campus for Young Men located at 3434 S. Michigan Ave. in Chicago. All young women and young men seeking admission into De La Salle's Class of 2017 must take the entrance exam at De La Salle on Test Day.

Students need to bring two No. 2 pencils and the $25 exam fee in order to take the entrance exam.

For more information, please contact De La Salle's Director of Admissions, Chuck Kuhn, at 312-842-7355 ext. 150 or kuhnc@dls.org.

De La Salle Institute is an independent Catholic secondary school rooted in the tradition of Christian Education begun by St. John Baptist de La Salle. Founded in 1889, its mission has been, and is, to foster a desire for excellence in education. Young people from a variety of ethnic and economic backgrounds are given the opportunity to fully develop their abilities so they may be active, contributing members of our complex changing society.

Bridgeview Public Library events

Can you guess who "dunnit"?

The Mystery Shop is coming to Bridgeview Library! Please join us Saturday, January 19th at 2:00 p.m. for: Hollywood Homicide. You're a producer, director, actress or actor. Maybe you're a success, maybe not. If your movie is a success, you can get many times the return on your investment. If your movie is not a success, oh well, that's show biz! You don't just watch this performance - you experience it, through total audience participation. One thing is certain - a murder has been committed and you're involved. Can you discover the prime suspect?

The seating for this program is limited so you must register in advance - (708) 458-2880 ext. 105.

Property Tax Help: The Cook County Assessor from Lyons Township, Barbara Weyrick, will be at the library on Thursday, January 24th to answer homeowner tax and assessment questions. There will be two sessions for your convenience. The first is from 1:00-3:00 p.m. and the second from 6:00-8:00 p.m. You do not have to live in Lyons Township or the Village of Bridgeview to attend. Please register in advance for this very informative program. (708) 458-2880 ext. 105.

Couponing 101

Rachel Singer Gordon blogs on money-saving strategies on her popular deals blog at www.mashupmom.com. And is a super-couponer. She will be at the library Saturday, January 26th to teach us how to save money and get great deals. This program begins at 2:00 p.m. Please register. (708) 458-2880 ext. 105.

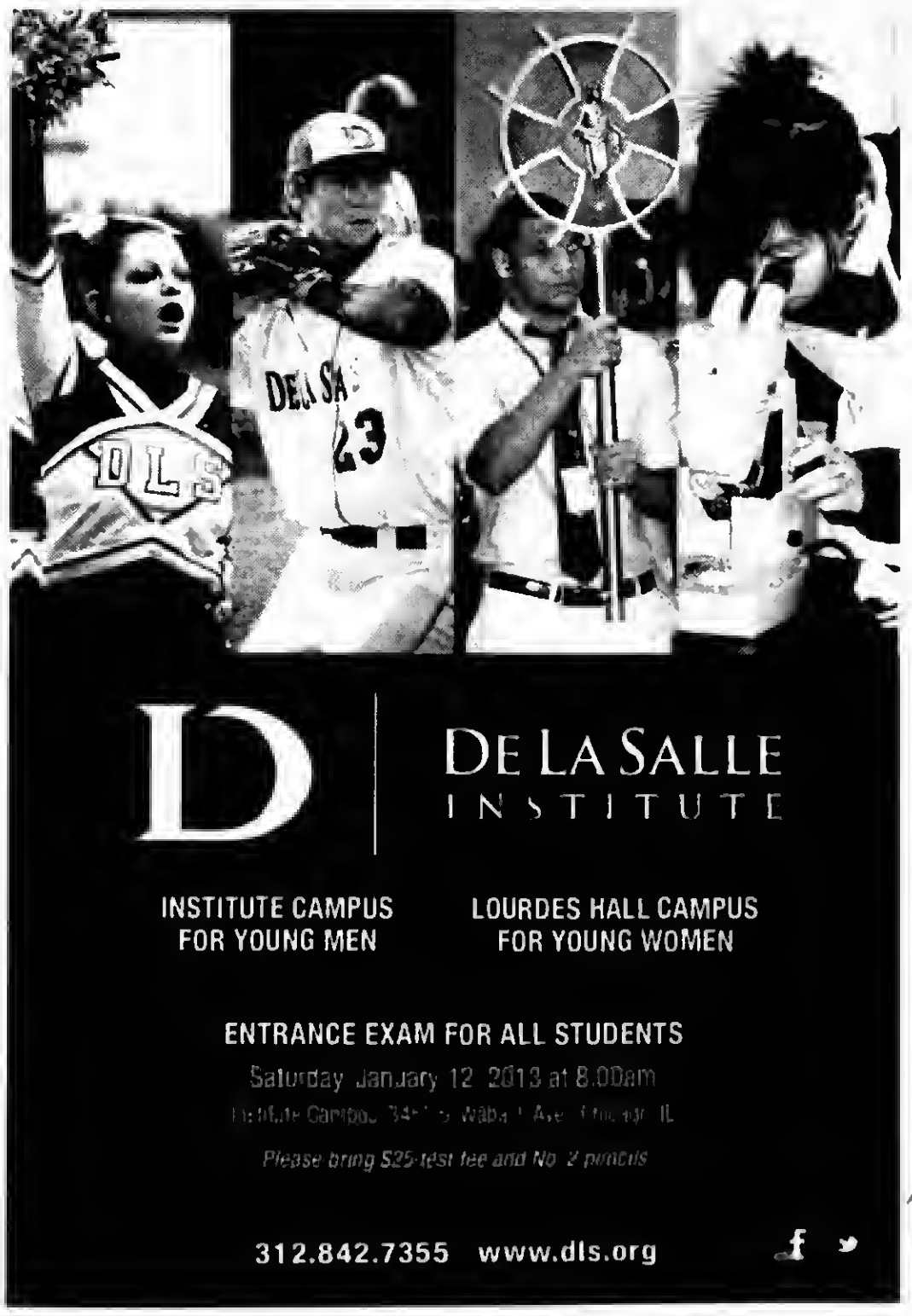
E-Reader Classes

Did you get a new E-Reader for the holidays? Want to learn how to download library books to your new device? We will be holding classes Thursday, January 31st at 6:30 p.m. to answer any questions you may have. Please register. (708) 458-2880 ext. 105.

Feeling Creative? Sue Kasten, our very own Library Trustee, will be here on Saturday, February 2nd, at 2:00 p.m. to help us learn how to make beautiful and fun greeting cards for Valentine's Day: this is a free class and all materials will be provided. However, you must register by Saturday, January 26th so we can provide enough materials for everyone. (708) 458-2880 ext. 105.

Monday Movies: The Bridgeview library offers free movies on Mondays at 1:00 p.m. Join our movie club and earn free rentals! Popcorn is served but you must provide your own beverage.

It's Super Bowl Time! Looking for Sports Bars, Super Bowl Parties, Bars and Grills, Night Clubs, Lounges, Liquor Stores, Rentals, Catering, Deli's, Restaurants, Pizza's, to advertise in our Super Bowl, January 15, 2013 issue. Call Linda at 708-425-1910.



Second annual Work Out to Wipe Out Domestic Violence© benefit day

On Saturday March 23, 2013, the Morgan Park Junior Woman's Club with the help of local fitness professionals will sponsor the Second Annual Work Out to Wipe Out Domestic Violence© Day. The purpose of this event is to raise awareness about the serious issue of domestic violence, and to raise funds for our local advocacy agency, A New Direction Beverly Morgan Park (A.N.D.).

Through various publicity and promotional media, event sponsors will invite the public to participate in various Benefit Day activities provided by fitness businesses and clubs throughout the community. Donations from participants will be collected at these activities, and the proceeds will go directly to A.N.D.

The Morgan Park Junior Woman's Club is asking for participation from fitness businesses and clubs (and their clients) including the martial arts, pilates, personal trainers, dance and yoga studios, physical therapists, tennis, biking, walking, running and swimming clubs all around the community. These Partners will provide or organize an activity on Benefit Day, March 23, 2013, and will promote the Benefit Day among their clients and patrons. If you own or manage a fitness studio or other physical activity-based club or business and would like to participate, please inquire by e-mail (morganparkjuniors@yahoo.com), or call Jean Catania at (773) 239-2632. If you are a patron of such a venue, please urge them to join us as a Benefit Day Partner.

Partners of the inaugural Work Out to Wipe Out Domestic Violence© Benefit Day in 2012 included Beverly Ride-On, Beverly Yoga Studio, Core Fitness and Physical Therapy, Cross Fit Beverly, Curves of Beverly, FitCode Boot Camps, Klees Golf Shop, Natural Instincts Physical Therapy and Wellness Center, Tsai's Kung Fu, Running Excels, the Shannon Center at St. Xavier University, and Yoga with Donna Wilkinson. Thanks to the coordinating efforts of our 2012 Partners and the generosity of their patrons, A.N.D. was the beneficiary of over 150 individual donations. Please help us to continue and strengthen this community support. Plan to participate on March 23, 2013 – Save the Date!

A New Direction Beverly Morgan Park (www.anewdirectionbmp.org) is a non-profit 501-C-3 agency that provides counseling and advocacy services to domestic violence victims. It was conceived and is directed by

Photos by Wehmeier Portraits

Members of the Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce celebrate the ribbon cutting grand opening of Hibachi Grill & Supreme Buffet. Hibachi Grill & Supreme Buffet is located at 7260 W. 159th Street. The restaurant features Chinese, Japanese and American cuisine.

Happy New Year!
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*This offer is for one 6-hour cleaning.
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Coupon expires Jan. 31, 2013. Service to locations more than 10 miles from our office require additional minimum hours purchase.
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community members with a strong commitment to its mission. A.N.D. is funded entirely through donations and relies on community support to continue its mission.

Marian Catholic High School entrance exam

Marian Catholic High School invites 8th grade students to take the entrance exam on Saturday, January 12, 2013, at 8:00 a.m. in the Sr. M. Paul McCaughey, O.P. Leadership Center.

Elizabeth Johnson, a freshman from Orland Park, has found that being involved in band and art club has made the transition to Marian Catholic easy and enjoyable. "A highlight so far at Marian Catholic has been performing at the Lucas Oil Dome in Indianapolis for the Bands of America Grand Nationals," Johnson said.

At Marian Catholic, 90 percent of the student body is involved in an extra-curricular activity. The variety of athletics, fine arts, and clubs that are offered at Marian Catholic permit students to find an activity that is the right fit providing them with an enriching high school experience while encouraging them to maintain the high academic standards that has been the hallmark of Marian Catholic. Last year, students in 19 out of 24 varsity athletic teams averaged a 3.4 GPA.

Creating an environment of excellence is a priority at Marian Catholic. While for some families, providing an elite college prep Catholic education for their student may require a financial sacrifice, Marian Catholic has a wide range of scholarships. In addition, in an effort to maintain a student body of academic distinction, Marian Catholic offers academic scholarships to incoming freshmen who score at the 90th percentile or above on the entrance exam. Scholarships range from $2,000 to $8,000, depending on the student's score. Students who receive Entrance Exam Scholarships are still eligible to apply for additional scholarships. In addition scholarships are offered to incredible students who excel in various areas of school life.

"Marian Catholic has prepared me for college by creating high standards and teaching a strong work ethic," Timothy LaVelle '13 said. "Teachers constantly expect high quality work and, as a result, I am always challenged to reach my full academic potential."

Recruitment Director, Sr. Dorothy Marie Solak, O.P. said, "If you want a school that will help you grow spiritually, help you develop leadership skills, give you the opportunity to participate in a wide range of extra-curricular activities, provide you with the opportunity to develop friendships that will last a lifetime while also giving you the opportunity to excel in academics, athletics, and fine arts, then Marian Catholic is the school for you. Take our entrance exam on January 12, and be a part of the Marian Catholic Class of 2017!"

Please bring two number two lead pencils and a $25 dollar test fee. No calculators will be allowed. For further information regarding the MCHS Entrance Exam contact Sr. Dorothy Marie, O.P., at 708-756-9762 or sdm@marianchs.com. For more information about the Scholarship Program please contact Sister Judine Hilbing, O.P., President of Marian Catholic, at 708-756-9403 or sjh@marianchs.com.

Volley Club South Suburban League

Palos Park Recreation along with our surrounding communities will be offering a new volleyball league from January 18-March 8 for girls ages 10-14. Weekly practice will be held on Fridays and 3 match play events on Saturdays. Some travel to the surrounding suburbs will be required.

For more information, call 708 671-3760. To register online go www.activenet15.active.com/palospark or drop by the Palos Park Recreation Department located at 8901 West 123rd Street, Palos Park, Il 60464

Orland Township Youth Commission rises to challenge set forth by local philanthropist

Members of the Orland Township Youth Commission (OTYC) visited Aldi, 9721 W. 159th St., to purchase food for those in need within the township, alongside Orland Park resident and philanthropist Terrence Camodeca and Orland Township Supervisor Paul O'Grady.

After raising funds throughout the year through various service projects, the OTYC was presented with an offer by Camodeca: he would provide his own donation, as well as accompany the children to purchase food with the donated money. Camodeca's intention was to have the children's charitable activities come full circle, to have the youth members put the maximum amount of effort into their service.

Orland Park brothers Noah and Tyler Gradowski, ages 15 and 18, were included in the group of around 10 who accompanied Camodeca and Supervisor O'Grady to Aldi. After helping with other service projects, such as a previously held car wash fundraiser, the Gradowski brothers were motivated to assist with another good cause, especially one involving the food pantry.

By participating in the shopping trip the brothers understood the message Camodeca was trying to convey about thinking about their service in a more comprehensive way; not just simply filling the carts with cheap foods lacking in any nutritional value.

"We made sure we picked healthier items," said Tyler Gradowski.

Fully supporting Camodeca's intention and message, Supervisor O'Grady gladly accompanied the group, making the final purchase on holiday staples such as vegetables, hams, cranberries, sweet potatoes, and some everyday items like pastas and cereals.

"I'm extremely proud of these kids for their service. It's not always easy at their age, or any age, to dedicate a busy Saturday away from friends or activities, but this group gladly sacrificed their own time to follow-up," said O'Grady. "After spending some time with them, we've got a great group on our hands and I know that this type of concern for others doesn't just go away, they'll continue to give to the community, and we thank them for that."

All of the donated food items were delivered to the food pantry and were given out during the annual holiday program, which provided food and clothing items to 216 families this year.

For additional information on the OTYC, volunteer opportunities at the township, please call (708) 403-4222 or visit www.orlandtwp.org.

Palos Park Library events

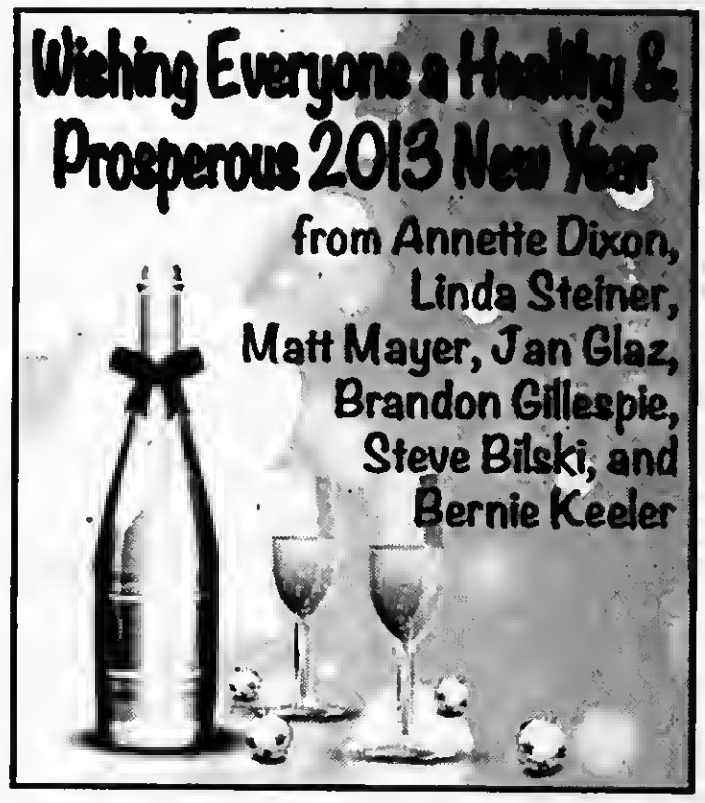
The Book & Film Series returns to the Palos Park Public Library on Wednesday, Jan. 9th at 2 p.m. with Salmon Fishing in the Yemen by Paul Torday and stars Emily Blunt and Ian McGregor. Run time 107 minutes.

This program is free and open to the public. All who attend will be entered in a raffle to win a free copy of the book. Didn't read the book? Come out anyway! Join us to judge a book by its movie. The library is located at 12330 Forest Glen Boulevard. Call the library to register at (708) 448-1530, or for more information, visit the library online at www.palosparklibrary.org.

Wanted! Vintage photographs and stories of Palos Park!

The Village of Palos Park is currently compiling a photographic history of Palos Park and is looking for help in assembling historic images of Palos Park and the stories that go with them to include in an upcoming book to be published by Arcadia Publishing, the nation's leading publisher of local and regional history. To share photographs and stories, please label them and place them in an envelope marked "Palos Park Centennial Pictures" and bring to either the Kaptur Center or Palos Park Library no later than January 31, 2013.

The Kaptur Center is located at 8999 West 123rd Street and is open Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Palos Park Library is located at 12330 Forest Glen Blvd. and is open Monday-Thursday 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday & Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Questions? Please contact Sally Kinney at the Village at (708) 671-3700 or email at skinney@palospark.org or Jeannine Kacmar at the Palos Park Public Library by phone at (708) 448-1530 or email at info@palosparklibrary.org. Help keep local history alive!



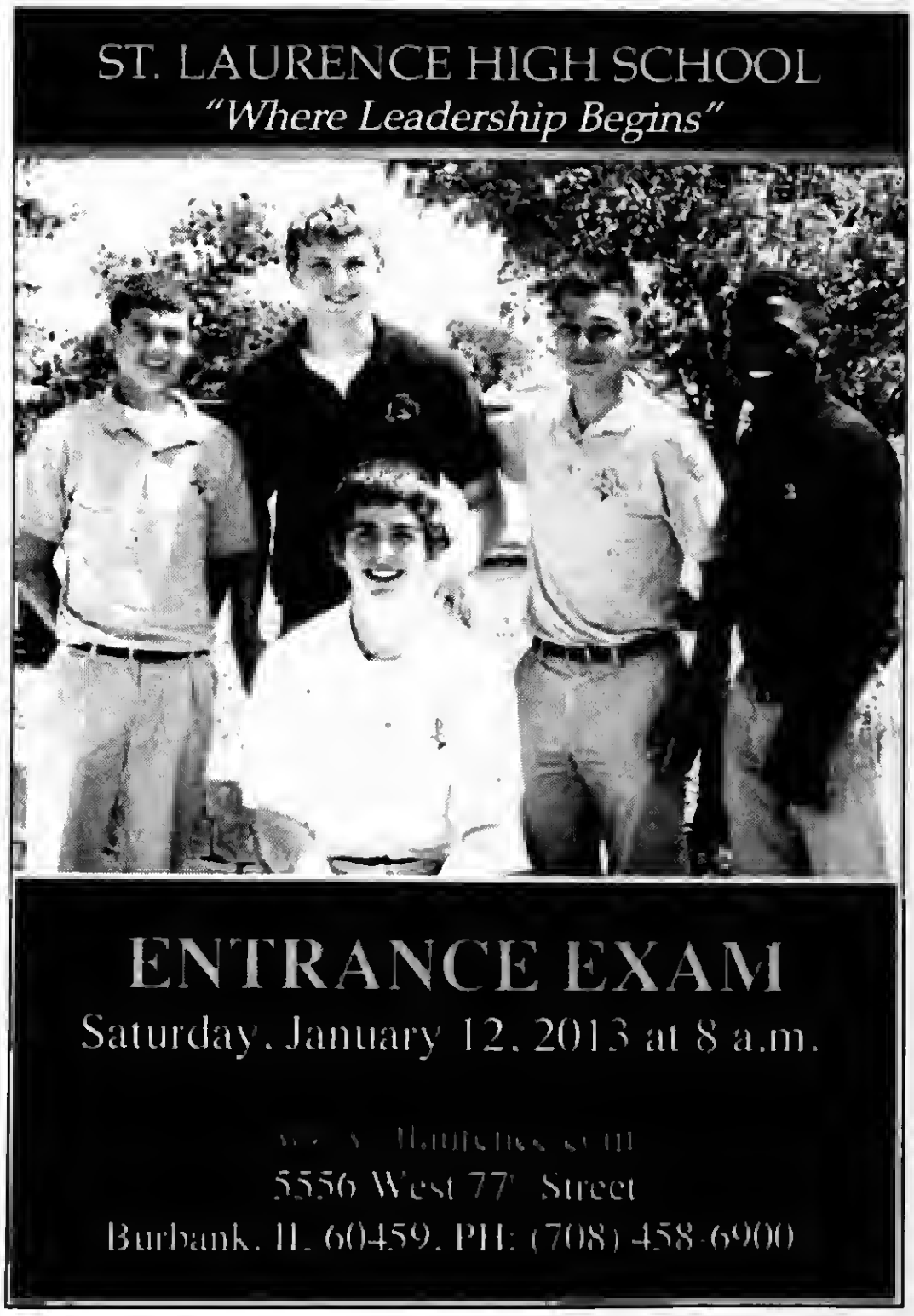
OLCHS announces class of 2013 Illinois state scholars

Oak Lawn Community High School is pleased to announce that, 30 students have been recognized as 2013 Illinois State Scholars.

Illinois State Scholar winners rank in the top ten percent of high school seniors from 773 different high schools across the state. Selection is based on SAT, ACT, and/or Prairie State Achievement Exam scores, and/or class rank at the end of the junior year.

While the prestigious recognition does not include a monetary award, recipients are encouraged to cite the honor on applications for college admission and scholarships in addition to completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) after January 1 to determine eligibility for federal and state aid, including Illinois' $240 million need-base Monetary Award Program.

Congratulations to the following students: Samuel Bernier, Cathal Burke, Joseph Cartolano, Kyle Cheng, Nicholas Contino, Kathleen Cortes, Jessica Cosenza, Nicholas Demas, Sean Dunne, Jamie Evtuch, Zachary Frazier, Nathaly Gal, Dominik Gorecki, Miranda Gray, Lorenzo Gudino, Rana Hamad, Jenna Hurckes, Omar Jaber, Marcin Krzysiak, Ronald Luce, Thomas Mallon, John Morgan, Connor Niemiec, Jeries Nino, Barbara Pajor, Carley Psik, Christine Richter, Isabella Sanchez, Yusra Sarhan, and Jessica Schlesser.



St. Rita Stock Club wins 1st place in fall 2012 stock market game competition

The St. Rita Stock Club won first place in the Chicago fall 2012 stock market competition. The winning team members were Victor Luna, Quentin Gray, Erik Landstrom, Collin Rook, Stanton Zaczek, Ian Leyden, and Miguel Stein. The winning team members will be recognized at an awards reception on Wednesday January 16, 2013 at the Chicago Board Options Exchange.

Each team starts with $100,000 to invest in publicly traded companies or mutual funds through a computer simulation. This team finished with $110,445 which is a return of 10.4% during this period and equals an approximate annual return of 42%. Our top performing stock was Facebook which increased 35 percent during the competition.

The stock club and moderator Mike Gallagher discuss investing basics from Peter Lynch who ran the Fidelity Magellan mutual fund and Warren Buffet who runs Berkshire Hathaway. Some of the basic concepts include:

Spend less than you make.

Invest in the stock market through your employer's 401(k) plan with a portion of each paycheck.

Understand each investment you make. As Peter Lynch said, you should be able to explain each investment you make to a seven year old.

Buy great businesses (stock) at a fair price and hold them for the long-term.

Try to keep investing costs low.

Diversify your investments to reduce risk.

Guest speakers this semester included Mike Wagner who works for a private money management company and Dan Casey who works for BP Amoco. Mike Wagner told the students to develop good communication skills, network, and read as much as possible about business and investing. Dan Casey spoke about how business culture differs in most every country and spoke of his international travel experiences. Both speakers suggested that the club members make the most of future opportunities and be ready when opportunities present themselves.

These same basic business concepts will be discussed at the Learn to Earn camp in June 2013 at St. Rita. The co-ed camp is for students currently in 4th through 8th grade. Last summer 95 campers earned over $31,000 and took home 75 Apple iPads. Camp instructor Mike Gallagher will invite back local business owners to St. Rita to share the keys to their sucess with campers.

The camp included a different speaker everyday and a walkathon in which the campers raised money toward the purchase of their iPad. Speakers ranged from Fr. Tom McCarthy to small business owners like Lynn Sapp, owner of Rainbow Cone, to Brian Jordan of the Chicago White Sox. Lynn Sapp, owner of Rainbow Cone, taught campers the value of first impressions when she shook hands with each camper and told them to make eye contact. She also gave a Rainbow Cone to each camper and played the Rainbow Cone wrap song.

The camp would not have been so successful without local business owners donating their time to come speak to campers, setting up agreements to give back funds to campers who patronized their business, or donating pizza to campers. Local businesses which generously participated were Pop's Beef, Rosangelas, County Fair, Barracos of Evergreen Park, Potbelly on 95th & Western, the Chicago White Sox, Marquette Bank, 115 Bourbon Street, and Rainbow Cone.

Hopefully stock club members will take this experience and continue to expand their knowledge of investing over the course of their lifetime.

Oak Lawn Library announcements

Free Concert: "Fascinatin' Rhythm: From Ragtime to Rap"

"Fascinatin' Rhythm: From Ragtime to Rap" presented by Chicago pianist Richard Sladek on Sunday, Jan. 13 from 2-3 p.m. His eclectic program is sure to feature something for everyone. Concert selections will include the George Gershwin songbook, as well as Scott Joplin, Dick Hyman and Billy Joel. Sponsored by the Friends of the Oak Lawn Library. No advance registration required.

Get Organized to Reduce Stress

Start the New Year off right with "Get Organized to Reduce Stress" on Monday, Jan. 14 at 7 p.m. at the Oak Lawn Public Library, 9427 S. Raymond Ave. Beth Randall, Certified Professional Organizer and owner of Joe Organizer, displays the benefits of getting organized to reduce the stress in your life. She will make you feel better about yourself and your environment in the New Year by showing you how to de-stress from work, home, travel, time and money.

Free Movie: "Arbitrage"

Free movie screening of "Arbitrage" on Tuesday, Jan. 15 at 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. A troubled hedge fund magnate desperate to complete the sale of his trading empire makes an error that forces him to turn to an unlikely person for help. Starring Richard Gere and Susan Sarandon. Rated: R. Running time: 107 min.

How to Use the Library's Online Catalog

Are you having trouble finding a book, movie or music at our Library or elsewhere? When you type in a title, are you confused by all the results you see? If you want to learn all there is to know about your SWAN library account - how to log in, reserve items from any of the other 80 SWAN libraries, turn on your reading history, pay fines or change your PIN - attend this informative demonstration on Thursday, Jan. 17 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. A Question and Answer session will follow each demonstration.

Library to Offer Free Movie Check-Outs

The Oak Lawn Public Library wants you to access our diverse movie collection at no cost. Beginning Jan. 2, movie check-outs will be free. Check-out periods will remain at 7 days with no renewals; Oak Lawn residents will still be able to check out up to 10 films at a time. Visit the Library and see our wide variety of movies - from new releases to foreign films to documentaries to family features and more. For additional information, contact the AV Department.

A Staff Member Just for Teens!

Stop by the Teen Area or the Help Desk to say hello to Izabel Gronski, the Oak Lawn Public Library's new full-time Teen Services specialist. Izabel has been working for the past 18 months to serve teens at the Library on a part-time basis and will now devote herself full-time to working with and for patrons in Grades 8-12. The Library could not be prouder of the services Izabel has already provided for this age group, and we are excited for what is yet to come!

The Oak Lawn Public Library is located at, 9427 S. Raymond Avenue. For more information and other free programs, call (708) 422-4990 or visit www.oaklawnlibrary.org.

The Book of Mormon Chicago Production

Syesha Mercado & Ben Platt in The Book of Mormon 2nd National Tour © Joan Marcus, 2012

Tinley Park Library events

Julie Andrews

The Tinley Park Public Library will host Julie Andrews on Monday, January 14, 2013 at 7 pm. Jenny Riddle returns, this time to dramatize the life of Julie Andrews, before she was Mary or Maria, telling her story and singing her songs, in her presentation of Julie Andrews' memoir, Home: the Early Years. Register in person, online or by phone.

Comfort Foods with a Twist

The Tinley Park Public Library will host Comfort Foods With A Twist on Wednesday, January 23, 2013 at 7 pm. Warm up with new twists on old favorites including chicken noodle soup and mac and cheese. Register in person, online or by phone.

The Tinley Park Public Library will host free Ereader classes during the month of January. Ereader classes are designed to show you how to download books from our ebook lending service, Media on Demand. Other apps for ereaders and mobile devices are not discussed. Registration begins on Saturday, January 5, 2013 at 9:30 am.

The Tinley Park Public Library is located at 7851 Timber Drive. Our website is www.tplibrary.org for more information or call 708-532-0160.

News in Evergreen Park

St. Bernadette Parish Trivia Night Saturday, January 5 at 7pm in O'Brien Hall.

All proceeds to benefit St. Vincent DePaul Society. Four players to a team, $100/table.

For more information, call (708) 636-5366.

Evergreen Park Girls Softball Registration is available online at www.epgirlssoftball.com. Payment is not due when you register online. Fill out the registration form, print it and bring it to one of the three January payment dates at the Community Center: Wed., January 16 from 7-9pm ; Sat, January 19 from 9am - noon; Sat. January 26 from 9am - noon.

The new board needs more volunteers! Please email info@epgirlssoftball.com.

2nd Annual Indoor Garage Sale/Antique Market Saturday, February 9 Evergreen Park High School Main Gym, Sponsored by EPCHS Athletic Boosters.

Reserve your table soon! $25 per table, 2 for $40. To reserve, call (708) 424-7400 x264 or visit www.evergreenpark.org.

School District 124 News. . .Did You Know?

SD 124 provides free screening of 3, 4 and 5-year olds (not of kindergarten age) to assess development in Vision and Hearing / Speech and Language / Knowledge of Basic Concepts / Fine and Gross Motor Skills. Children eligible can quality for special programs. For more information, call Jean Hector at (708) 423-0950, ext. 2140.

Banks, Mortgage Company's, Loans, Title Offices, Investment Firms, Lawyers, Financing, Brokerage Firms, Insurance Companies, Estate Planning, advertise your services in our January 15, 2013 issue. Call 708-425-1910 for further information and details.

WAR HORSE available at Cadillac Palace Theatre until January 5

WAR HORSE, winner of five 2011 Tony® Awards including Best Play is available until Jan. 5, 2013 at the Cadillac Palace Theatre (151 W. Randolph St.). Tickets are still available.

This production is one of drama, history, comedy and the most intricate engineering fantasized by Handspring Puppet Company with their most integral work on this production.

Even if you are not fond of horses you will still be impressed with the accomplishments of the puppetry. At the heart of the show are life-sized puppets which bring breathing, galloping, charging horses to thrilling life on stage.

Hailed by The New York Times as "theatrical magic," WAR HORSE is the powerful story of young Albert's beloved horse, Joey, who has been enlisted to fight for the English in World War I. In a tale the New York Daily News calls "spellbinding, by turns epic and intimate," Joey is caught in enemy crossfire and ends up serving both sides of the war before landing in no man's land.

Albert, not old enough to enlist, embarks on a treacherous mission to find his horse and bring him home. What follows is a remarkable tale of courage, loyalty and friendship, filled with stirring music and songs and told with the some of the most innovative stagecraft of our time.

The tour of WAR HORSE is based on the beloved novel by Michael Morpurgo and adapted by Nick Stafford. It is directed by Bijan Sheibani based on the original Tony® Award-winning direction by Marianne Elliott and Tom Morris, and presented in association with Handspring Puppet Company.

Tickets are available at all Broadway In Chicago Box Offices (24 W. Randolph St., 151 W. Randolph St., 18 W. Monroe St. and 175 E. Chestnut), the Broadway In Chicago Ticket Kiosk at Water Tower Place (845 N. Michigan Ave.). You can call the Broadway In Chicago Ticket Line at (800) 775-2000, or visit Ticketmaster.com

Tickets are available after March 5th for Book of Mormon

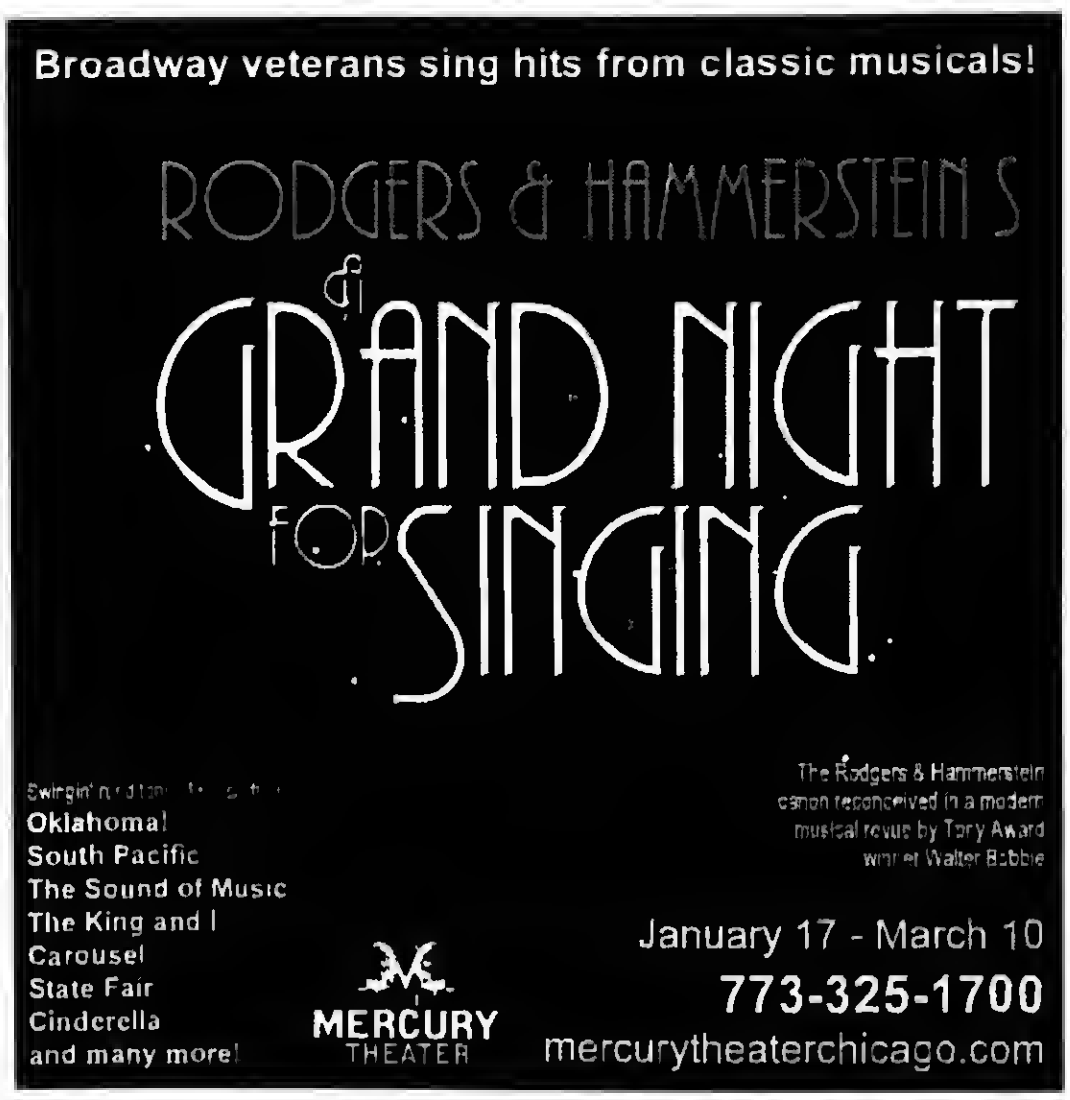
Performances of THE BOOK OF MORMON began in Chicago on December 11, 2012 at the Bank of America and tickets are still available for performances March 5 through June 2, 2013.

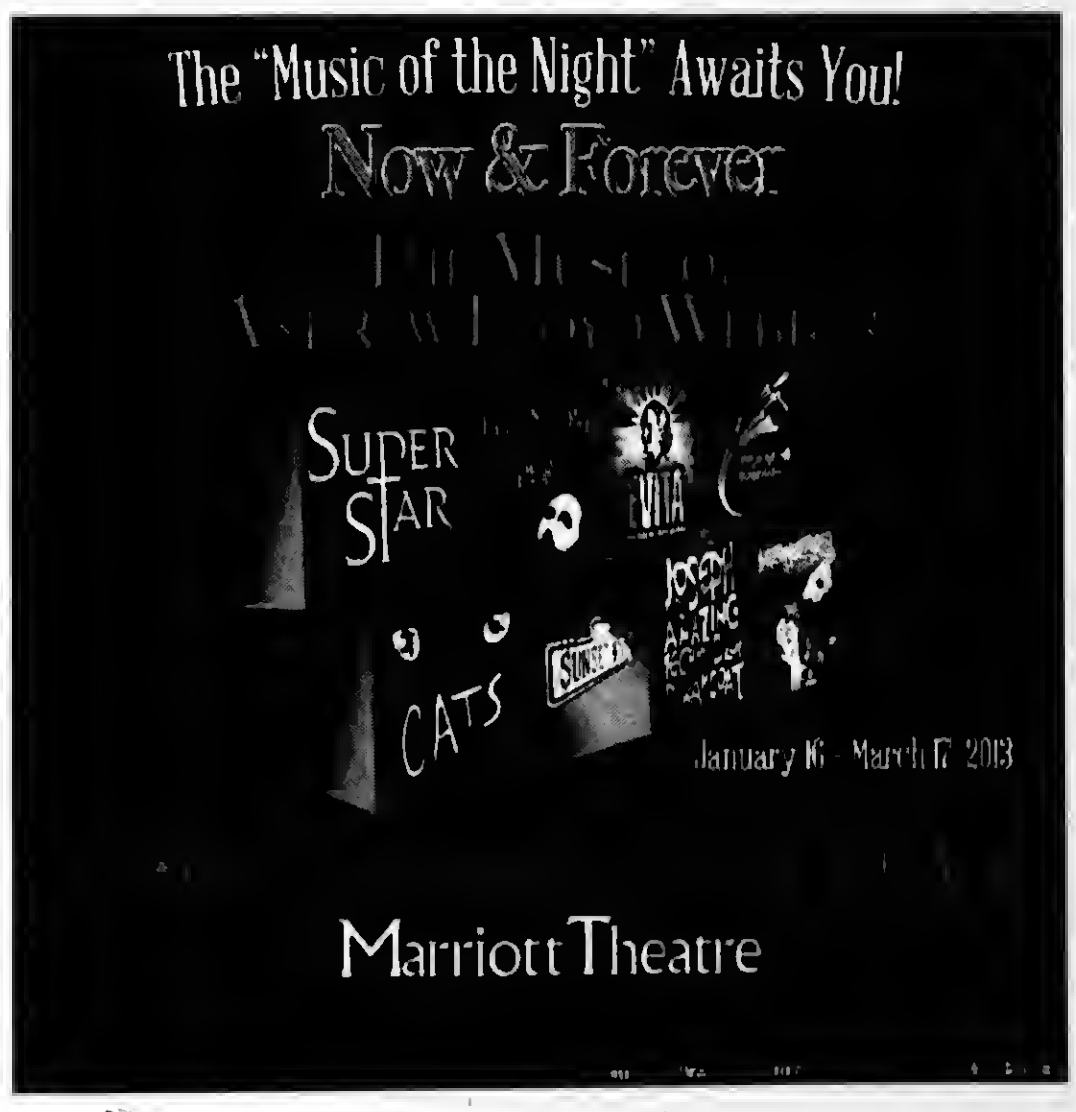
THE BOOK OF MORMON features book, music and lyrics by Trey Parker, Robert Lopez and Matt Stone. Parker and Stone are the four-time Emmy Award-winning creators of the landmark animated series, "South Park." Tony Award-winner Lopez is co-creator of the long-running hit musical comedy, Avenue Q. The musical is choreographed by Tony Award-winner Casey Nicholaw (Monty Python's Spamalot, The Drowsy Chaperone) and is directed by Nicholaw and Parker.

THE BOOK OF MORMON is the winner of nine Tony Awards, including Best Musical, Best Score (Trey Parker, Robert Lopez, Matt Stone), Best Direction (Casey Nicholaw, Trey Parker), Best Featured Actress (Nikki M. James), Best Scenic Design (Scott Pask), Best Lighting Design (Brian MacDevitt), Best Sound Design (Brian Ronan) and Best Orchestrations (Larry Hochman, Stephen Oremus); the New York Drama Critics Circle Award for Best Musical; five Drama Desk Awards including Best Musical, the 2011 Grammy Award for Best Musical Theater Album; four Outer Critics Circle Awards, including Best Musical, and the Drama League Award for Best Musical.

THE BOOK OF MORMON features set design by Scott Pask, costume design by Ann Roth, lighting design by Brian MacDevitt and sound design by Brian Ronan. Orchestrations are by Larry Hochman and Stephen Oremus. Music direction and vocal arrangements are by Stephen Oremus.

Tickets are available at all Broadway In Chicago Box Offices and the Broadway In Chicago Ticket Line at (800) 775-2000, all Ticketmaster (including Hot Tix and online at www.BroadwayInChicago.com.





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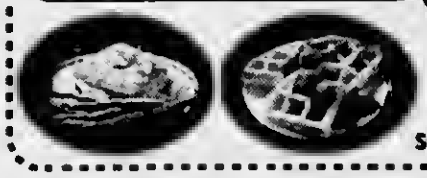

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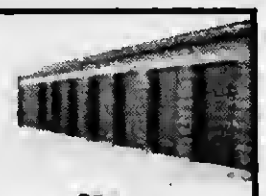

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• Increased insulin sensitivity: Viscous soluble fibers and resistant starches found in fiber-full foods can help your body to more efficiently use insulin.

• Increased satiety: When fibers ferment, they produce hormones that help you feel full longer.

• Weight management: Studies show that dietary fiber intake is lower in obese adults than lean ones.

• Increased mineral absorption: Some fibers improve the way the body absorbs minerals, especially calcium.

• Improved digestion: The short-chain fatty acids (SCFA) produced by the fermentation of dietary fibers optimize motor activity of the colon, help to regulate intestinal mobility and contribute to the defense mechanisms of the intestinal barriers. Fiber adds bulk, so it can improve regularity.

• Lowered blood cholesterol levels: Certain types of fibers (beta-glucan, psyllium, guar gum) reduce cholesterol absorption. Studies have linked a high-fiber diet with improvements in serum lipids, total cholesterol, low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C), high-density lipoprotein cholesterol (HDL-C) and triglycerides.

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Learn More

You can find further facts about fiber and its beneficial effects at http://fiberfacts.org.

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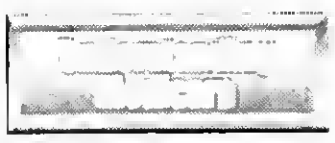

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Choose your Medicare plan carefully-your health and wealth could depend on it.

Choosing quality

by Patricia Smith

(NAPSA)-Every autumn, millions of Medicare beneficiaries make a very important decision: which Medicare Advantage (MA) plan to enroll in. Medicare's annual open enrollment period is now through December 7. During this time, people on Medicare have the option to change plans or decide to enroll in one for the first time. There are many factors that go into making a decision about an MA plan, including size of the premium, choice of doctors and benefits the plan provides. But there is one other question that Medicare beneficiaries should ask: "What are the quality ratings of the plans I am considering?"

Why is quality important? Quite simply, it means better health care and the best value for your money. The Medicare program uses a system called Star Ratings. Plans receive a rating of one to five stars, with five stars being the highest possible rating. These ratings are based on things like how good a job the plan does at keeping people healthy by making sure they get the treatments, tests and vaccines they need to prevent illness, how quickly you can get an appointment and see specialists and how the plan responds to your complaints and concerns.

I'm proud of the fact that eight of the 11 Medicare plans earning five stars are members of the Alliance of Community Health Plans, an organization representing the nation's leading health plans.

You can learn more about MA health plans and their quality ratings using the Medicare Plan Finder, which can be found at www.Medicare.gov (MA plans are called "Medicare Health Plans" in the Plan Finder). The National Committee for Quality Assurance also evaluates quality in MA plans; their rankings can be found at www.ncqa.org.

• Ms. Smith is the CEO of the Alliance of Community Health Plans, www.achp.org.

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From fruit to nuts, it's all there in this one delicious cherry pecan cookie.

Cherry Pecan Chews to share

(NAPSA)-When you're looking to make a treat to share with family and friends or give as a gift, having a fantastic "go-to" recipe in your arsenal can be sweet. Here's one that fits the bill on ease of preparation and taste and that you'll be happy to share with those you love. Created by Louanne Bertrand, a popular food blogger at Louanne's Kitchen, it's a cookie that's great anytime of the year.

Cherry Pecan Chews
Yield: 5 dozen
2 1/2 cups flour
1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 cup unsalted butter, softened
1 1/2 cups sugar
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/2 teaspoon almond extract
1 large egg
1/3 cup finely chopped maraschino cherries
1 cup toasted and finely chopped pecans

Note: The dough must chill before baking; preheat oven to 350° F when ready to bake.

Whisk flour, baking powder and salt together; set aside. Cream together butter, sugar, vanilla and almond until fluffy. Beat in egg. Mix in cherries and pecans. Add flour mixture, mixing until well incorporated. Pat dough into a disk, wrap in plastic wrap or wax paper, and chill for at least 1 hour, although overnight is best. Preheat oven to 350° F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper or spray with non-stick spray. Using a small cookie scoop, portion dough onto prepared baking sheet, spacing cookies 2" apart. Bake for 11-12 minutes or until lightly brown around the edges. Allow cookies to cool for at least 5 minutes before removing to a cooling rack.

A librarian by day and wanna-be chef at home, Louanne says, "This recipe, like many others I share on my blog, is my own, based on culinary memories from my childhood."

She recommends you keep a jar or two of maraschino cherries on hand to add color and flavor to your favorite baked goods. The cherries are so versatile that they can be used in appetizers, beverages and entrées, as well as desserts.

Learn_More

For more tips and recipes, visit Louanne's Kitchen at www.louanneskitchen.com and the National Cherry Foundation at www.nationalcherries.com.

Record Show

Record Collectors Show
• New Location
Georgios Comfort Inn
8800 W. 159th St., Orland Park
Saturday, January 12th
9:00 am to 3:00 pm
We Buy LP's & 45's too!
40 Dealer Tables
Admission: $3.00
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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 39 | Number 14 | January 15, 2013

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

Dave the Candlemaker and Patrick the Blacksmith explain their jobs

Colonial days at St Albert

The 5th graders of St. Albert the Great Catholic School in Burbank studied the lives of the Colonists. Under the direction of their social studies teacher, Mrs. Jimenez, the students researched farming and food, clothing and shoes, and some various jobs of the day.

They gave a presentation of Colonial Days to other classes and invited family and friends to see their exhibits.

If you are interested in sending your child to a faith-based school that has its own history of 60 years of academic excellence, call the school office at 708-424-7757.

Oak Lawn approves infrastructure improvements

by Matt Mayer

Officials at the Oak Lawn Board of Trustees meeting approved an agreement with Aggreko LLC for back up power generators for the Harker Water Pumping Station, which supplies water to 325,000 people in 13 municipalities. The municipalities will pay their fair share for the upgrades based upon how far out they are. New Lenox will pay the most, said Deetjen. A contract with CDM Smith for $3,958,000 for professional engineering services for the 2012 regional water system detailed design was approved as well as a contract with CDM Smith for $1,200,000 for the 2013 sanitary sewer rehabilitation program. A resolution to adopt a policy pertaining to additional infrastructure improvements was also approved.

Other higblights: The board postponed 2 additional requests for liquor licenses from establishments. There has been an increase of requests for liquor licenses since the gaming ordinance, which allows for video poker machines was approved. Trustee Tom Duhig said, "We don't want to turn 95th Street into a casino."

The board concurred with the Planning and Development Commission referral for a site plan for Dr. Ejaz Tahir at 9515-17 S. Central Avenue. An ordinance for the site plan was approved as well as an ordinance to install a No Right Turn Sign between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., except for local traffic, at the eastbound entrance on 96th street and Central Avenue.

Hickory Hills Alderman resigns

by Jan Glaz

Longtime 3rd Ward Alderman Louis DeRose resigned from office, without explanation. Mayor Mike Howley publicly announced that he received the resignation of city Alderman Louis DeRose at the January 10th Hickory Hills City Council Meeting. The Mayor knew DeRose was not going to run for reelection but not that he would decide to resign early. DeRose submitted, signed and notarized his resignation to the clerk's office after December 29th. "With the proximity of the election," said Mayor Howley, "we have a couple of options, we can put in someone to serve until the election, or not. Since we have two people running I would not want to give one of the nominees an unfair advantage and I don't think it would be good to throw someone in without city council experience for nine or ten meetings until the election, so we can do without." Alderman DeRose was in service to Hickory Hills for eight and a half years: Health and Environment Control/Recycling Committee. Mayor Howley and fellow 3rd ward Alderman Tom McAvoy offered their thanks to DeRose. It's reported that Francine Schafer and Brian Fonte are the nominees in the 3rd Ward. Incumbent Alderman Brian Waight will be running against Stephan Novak in the 1st Ward. Incumbent, and 2nd Ward Alderman Deborah Ferrero, is unchallenged. 4th Ward Alderman Joseph Stachnik will oppose John Corasis.

Alderman Bryan Waight announced that the city received two new business license applications: Eco Squad Cleaning Guru's, a drop off cleaners to be located at 8075 W. 95th Street, and Holistic Therapeutics, offering physical therapy and massage to be located at 7667 W. 95th Street. Mayor Howley made a brief announcement that the city of Hickory Hills will be happy to participate in a ribbon cutting and store promotion for Jimmy John's on January 29th. Jimmy John's is opening in Hickory Hills at 7604 W. 95th Street.

Evergreen Park approves expenditures for park project

by Matt Mayer

The brief meeting of the Jan. 7 Evergreen Park Board of Trustee meeting commenced with Mayor James Sexton announcing that the municipal building will he closed on Monday Jan. 21, 2013, in observance of Martin Luther King Day, changing the next board meeting to Tuesday Jan. 22. Also on Jan 22 there will be a public hearing at 7:30 p.m. to discuss the proposed appropriation ordinance for the fiscal year beginning Nov. 1, 2012 to Oct. 31, 2013. Mayor Sexton also announced that the sales tax has been lowered to 8.75 percent.

The board approved a public works request from Public Works Director Bill Lorenz to pay Amber Mechanical Contractors Inc, the amount of $123,910.83 for the park building at 2701 W. 91st Street as well as a public works request for a change order of $27,085.99 to the original parking lot project at the Activity Center. This change order was necessary to pay for additional work that was unforeseeable at the time the contract was signed, such as the removal of tree roots, said Lorenz. A public works request to advertise for bids for the site electrical project, which is slated to include parking lot lighting, pond pumps, gazebo electrical work, dog park lighting, and future water feature electrical work was approved.

2012 DWTS Winner Valerie Georgelos (left) poses with her professional dance instructor Ty after winning the coveted mirror ball trophy. The 2012 Dancing with the Spartans event raised over $18,000 for Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy.

Dancing with the Spartans to take the spotlight

This year marks the fourth year of the Dancing with the Spartans tradition at Oak Lawn Community High School. On Friday, April 12, 2013, six faculty dancers and two student dancers will go head to head for the coveted mirror ball trophy in an effort to raise money and awareness for Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy. Last year a whopping $18,100.89 was raised, and the dancers are determined to beat that number this year.

This year's faculty dancers are: math teacher Shannon DeMatteo, math teacher Sara Strelow, physical education teacher Pat Probst, teaching assistant Matt Arthur, physical education teacher Patti Casey, and teaching assistant Tammy Pietruszynski. The student dancers are Olivia Suarez and John Morgan.

Village View

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 2 | January 15, 2013

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Oak Forest officials rate a unique venue

by Jan Glaz

A new business created a buzz at the City of Oak Forest January 8th City Council Meeting. The motion: Approval of an Ordinance increasing the number of liquor licenses for Illinois Café and Service Company LLC. d.b.a. Dotty's, to be located at 6070 West 159th Street, met with approval and acclaim. Community Development Director Adam Dotson presented pertinent information regarding Dotty's, a west coast business, in business for 20 years, having approximately 150 locations in Nevada. Oregon and Montana. Dotty's building permit plans are presently in review. The first step is the approval of the liquor license. It is a country style, kitchen type of restaurant, the food pricing is minimal, and they may have as many as 5 video gaming machines. Dotty's will set a two drink minimum to discourage use as a drinking establishment. Mayor Henry Kuspa and the Aldermen agreed that it will be a welcome addition to the city's business community. Alderman Peter Muscarella had previously checked out Dotty's website and added mountains of praise for the establishment. "This is a Franchise Group, a National Chain, we are on the move, we are aggressive, we are moving forward on this project... it's a nice fit for our city. They have a real delightful menu: I think I'm going to enjoy hanging out there, a very unique venue."

An Ordinance for the sale of surplus equipment met with approval: Two 2001 Ford Crown Victorias. City Clerk Collector Scott Burkhardt commented that these items are no longer needed as they are technologically outdated surplus and have exceeded their economically useful life. The items may be placed in a newspaper advertisement, posted on the City's website homepage or listed on other websites. The members of the city council chuckled when informed that they may also be sold for salvage, more likely, due to the age and condition of the vehicles.

A Sad Endnote: Alderman Charles Toland announced that one of the founders of the Oak Forest Park District, Jim Petkus, died that night about 7 p.m. on the night of the City Council meeting January 8th. At the request of Alderman Simon the meeting held a moment of silence in memory of Petkus, a man instrumental in many of the city's activities geared to the youth of Oak Forest, from baseball to football and more.

Orland Park and YouTube

by Jan Glaz

On January 7th, prior to the Board of Trustees meeting, Trustee James Dodge revealed that 3,109 viewers watched a YouTube video to gather information regarding the Tax Rebate Prngram in Orland Park. Dodge noted that the use of YouTube is a welcome tool for public awareness issues, as many people don't have access to Comcast or Uverse. The Orland Park link is: http://www.youtube.com/user/VillageofOrlandPark

Lneating Vehicles: The Board of Trustees agreed to approve the purchase of Automatic Vehicle Locator (AVL) devices. The village staff received a quote from Precise MRM, LLC. For the necessary hardware, installation and service fees for installation of AVL devices in seventy-one (71) vehicles totaling $61,414.29. Monthly airtime fees will also apply depending on vehicle use. Ongoing evaluation has shown the monthly fees to average approximately $15 per month per vehicle ($15,000 annually). There are twenty-five (25) Village vehicles remaining to be equipped with AVL - twelve (12) in the Development Services Department, eight (8) in the Parks Department, three (3) in the Public Works Vehicle and Equipment Division and two (2) in Administration. On December 17, 2012, the Public Works and Engineering Committee reviewed this item and recommended the purchase, installation and 2013 annual and monthly fees for the remaining twenty-five (25) vehicles for a total of ninety-six (96) AVLs and related hardware in an amount not to exceed $106,414.29 from Precise MRM, LLC of Burnsville, Minnesota.

Before the meeting adjourned an Oak Lawn Water Negotiations Consultant Agreement met with board approval. In August of 2009, the Village engaged WRB, LLC for consulting services related to the negotiations for contract renewal with Oak Lawn for water supply. A second agreement was entered into in April of 2011. Expenses related to Bill Balling is as follows: August 2009 - $60,000: April 2011 - $45,000: Total - $105,000. Of the amounts listed, the Village is respnnsihle for 33% of the expense $34,650. The remaining 67% is paid from Mokena (10%), New Lenox (18%), Oak Forest (11%) and Tinley Park (28%). The Village of Tinley Park acts as the administrator of the contract. At present, the authorized expenditure for WRB, LLC is almost exhausted. The village made progress with Oak Lawn and are on target tn complete the negotiations in 2013. The proposal is in an amount not to exceed $45,000. The Village's exposure would be $14,850 (33%). However, the way the prnposal is written, the village is not obligated to pay the full amount if the hours are not nsed

Tinley Park 2013 eye on new business

by Jan Glaz

The Tinley Park Village Plan Commission approved a Special Use Permit for a new business to be located in the Brookside Marketplace Mall, in a space once occupied by a Lane Bryant clothing outlet. The 14,000 square feet store has remained empty since the mass murder of five women in 2008. Amy Connolly, Tinley Park Planning Director, reported that the owner of the mall may reinvent the area by moving four tenants to either end of the building, thus opening a center store for the new retailer whose variance has been apprnved for four-foot high letters as opposed to the customary three feet. Among the moves, Ross Dress for Less is slotted to take occupancy in a new building north of Brookside Marketplace.

Lawn Funeral Homes, a 50 year old business owned by Don Jarka Sr., will be opening a third location in a new 16,000 square foot building to be located at 179th Street and 94th Avenue, in the summer of 2013: viewing rooms, a Chapel, and a spacious family lounge will grace their new home. The first Lawn Funeral Home opened in Burbank, Illinois, in 1962 and in 1987 a second followed at 7732 W. 159th Street, in Orland Park, Illinois. The public can call 708-429-3200 for information.

Political Front 2013: Nine nominating petitions are filed for Tinley Park officials running for election on April 9, 2013. Steve Eberhardt, a Tinley Park lawyer, will be opposing eight term mayor, Ed Zabrocki, for the mayoral seat. If elected Eberhardt is determined to do away with pointless spending that taxpayer's pick up the tab for: citing various parties, gala dinners, golf outings and unnecessary gifts. In 2010 Eberhardt was instrumental in preventing Tinley Park from building a senior housing project near 179th and Harlem Avenue.

Orland Park Recreation Department to hold open house

The Village of Orland Park 's Preschool Program is designed to help pre-schoolers develop the skills neeessary for independent learning and socialization in a warm, funfilled environment.

The Orland Park Recreation Department will host its Pre-school Open House on Wednesday, January 16, 2013. Orland Park's program is offered at the Franklin E. Loebe Reereation Center, 14650 South Ravinia Avenue . The village's pre-school facility will be showeased for parents from 6:30 P.M. until 8:00 P.M.

Offered by Orland Park 's Reereation Department for more than 30 years, the village's pre-school includes two divisions. Junior Pre-school meets two days a week for two-hour sessions and is available for children who will be three years old by September 1. Senior Pre-school is open to four and five year olds, offered three days a week in two and one half hour sessions. The village's pre-school follows the standard aeademie year. September through May.

Open house attendees will also learn about the Reereation Department's Lunch and More Program. This enrichment program is a continuation of the pre-school class, offered before or after the senior elasses. Students bring sack lunches and enjoy activities in nature, science, arts and crafts, math and games.

Acclaimed as one of the best kindergarten preparatory programs in the area, the village's program helps prepare children for the academic and social opportunities of kindergarten. Creating a well-rounded academic foundation, Orland Park's curriculum includes academic instruction, arts and crafts, games, holiday parties and field trips.

Lesson plans for the three-year-old juniors include activities that promote hand-eye coordination, balance, body awareness and more. The senior level, for four and five year olds, helps prepare the young student for kindergarten. Both levels include letter and number recognition, science, creative art and more.

Orland Park 's pre-school faculty includes many degreed professionals who have chosen to work part-time in order to be with their own children. All of the instructors have strong backgrounds in early childhood education and all are certified in CPR/AED and first aid.

All classes are held at both the Franklin E. Loebe Reereation Center . Morning and afternoon sessions are available for both age groups.

Further information is available at the Village of Orland Park Reereation Department, located in the Franklin E. Loebe Reereation Center , 14650 South Ravinia Avenue , or by calling 708/403-PARK (7275).

Village View

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SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 14 | Number 2 | January 15, 2013

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Bulls and Sox Academy coming to Palos Hills

Bulls/Sox Academy: Palos Hills Recreation Dept team up to host Chicago Bills fundamentals camps

The Bulls/Sox Academy announced that it will be hosting a Chicago Bulls FUNdamentals Camp starting Saturday, January 19th located at 8455 W. 103rd St. in Palos Hills.

The Chicago Bulls FUNdamentals Camp is a 4 week session designed to teach players the latest techniques in ball handling, passing, shooting, footwork and rebounding as well as offensive and defensive team play. The Bulls/Sox Academy believes every young player should have fun while improving their game.

The camp is open to boys and girls. Bulls FUNdamentals Camp, for ages five to eight year olds, will run on Saturdays from 1:00pm-2:00pm for $79 per athlete, and 2:00-3:30pm for nine to twelve year olds starting January 19th for $114.00 per athlete. Each participant will receive top-flight instruction from professional Academy coaches, a tee shirt, scouting report and a replica autograph photo of current Bulls superstar Derrick Rose.

The Bulls/Sox Academy opened in 2001 in Lisle, Illinois and runs extensive training programs in basketball, baseball, fastpitch softball, and sports conditioning for boys and girls from beginner to professional. There are additional Academy locations in Glen Ellyn, LaGrange, and Schererville, IN. For more information or to register for this camp, go to www.BullsSoxAcademy.com or call 630-324-8221.

Chicago Ridge presented project status report

by Matt Mayer

Village Engineer Chris Burke presented a project progress report at the Jan. 8 Chicago Ridge Board of Trustees meeting as follows: Final plans and calculations were received on Sept. 27 and an approval letter was issued on Oct. 10, 2012 for new antennas on the Ridge Drive Water Tower at 6498 Ridge Drive. A revised preliminary site plan was received on Sept. 26 and a letter recommending the applicant proceed with the final plans was issued on Oct. 4, 2012, for Chick-Fil-A the Chicago Ridge Mall.

A final request for reimbursement of all remaining grant funds of $4,735.73 will be submitted along with the next quarterly report due the end of January for the 2011 Motor Fuel Tax street project on McVicker and Oak Park Avenues; the final construction cost of $179,891.60 for the O'Connell Drive water main project will be paid for by the $180,000.00 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) received by the village.

Cook County increased the grant fund to $300,000 from $150,000 to replace the water main along Nottingham Avenue from 98th Street to Mather Avenue. The additional funds will be used to replace the water main on 100th Street from Nottingham to Sayre Avenues. Accurate Electric Motor and Pump completed the rewind and rehabilitation of the first motor, which was reinstalled at the 105th Street and Harlem Avenue lift station. The second motor was removed and delivered for refurbishing which is slated to take approximately two weeks.

Moraine Valley hosting art exhibit by Jeff Krantz

Moraine Valley Community College is hosting "Bloodletting" by artist Jeff Krantz in the Robert F. DeCaprio Art Gallery, in the Fine and Performing Arts Center, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills. The exhibit will run now through February 7. An artist's reception is scheduled for Thursday, January 24, from 2 to 4 p.m., with an artist talk at 3 p.m.

Krantz says that at the outcome, it is the quality of the engagement between himself and the painting that he hopes is apparent in his work and that the outcome helps him identify which experiences have been nutritive or toxic in his life.

Krantz has a Master of Fine Arts in Painting from Indiana University in Bloomington and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. He currently resides in Chicago and is an art adjunct faculty member at Moraine Valley and Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago.

The Robert F. DeCaprio Art Gallery provides an opportunity to view locally and nationally recognized artists. Exhibits in the art gallery are free to the public and are available for viewing Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., as well as during most performances in the Fine and Performing Arts Center. For more information, visit morainevalley.edu/fpac or call Jennifer Kiekeben at (708) 608-4231.

The Chicago Ridge Public Library

"Fun With Fat Quarters", a Quilting Program, on Saturday, January 19th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. This is a Friends of the Chicago Ridge Library Fundraiser: registration and a $10 fee is required. Supply list provided. Library sewing machines are available.

"College Planning Workshop" on Thursday, January 24th at 7:00 p.m. Help your college bound student choose the right career track and select the right college. Learn how not to overburden your student with debt and not endanger your financial future. Both parents and college bound students should join us for this valuable workshop. Please join us for this free program.

"Beginning Knitting" on Friday, January 25th from 6:00 to 11:00 p.m. Join our Crafting Lock-in and learn to knit. Our instructor will get you going with the basics. Bring size 7 or 8 single point needles and a skein of worsted weight yarn.

It helps if the yarn and needles aren't the same color! Registration in-person and pre-pay the $5 fee. This class is limited to 8 people.

The Chicago Ridge Public Library is located at 10400 S. Oxford.

Call the Chicago Ridge Public Library if you have any questions at 708-423-7753.

Palos Park Public Library annual magazine sale.

The Palos Park Public Library's Annual Magazine sale is back and will run from Monday, Jan. 21st through Saturday, Jan. 26th. Choose from a selection of past issues of popular magazines for all ages. The prices are 3 magazines for $1.00 or $.50 per magazine. The library is located at 12330 Forest Glen Blvd. in Palos Park. Call the library at (708) 448-1530 for any questions

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B-MAC EDITION

Volume 7 | Number 2 | January 15, 2013

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Alsip postpones agreement with Hitchcock Group

by Jan Glaz

On January 7th at the Village of Alsip Board of Trustees Meeting a request for an approval to enter into an agreement with the Hitchcock Group, regarding their services for the Pulaski Road Preliminary Business Development Planning and Design Project did not yield a motion for approval. A representative from the group said their services incorporate a business development plan, appropriate capital improvements, and develop business guidelines.

In part, market research will match where opportunities are for a customer base to determine what type of businesses should locate in the business corridor for maximum success, also a profile will be given to the village of five communities who have a similar business corridor and outline what they did to develop their corridor. Although Mayor Patrick Kitching indicated he was in favor of moving forward with the request. Trustee Quinn wanted more time to review and discuss the issue before hiring the group. The request will reappear for a vote at a future board of trustees meeting.

Noteworthy News: The Board of Trustees approved to purchase for the Police Department two Ford Explorers from Terry's Ford, Peotone, Illinois, at a cost of $24,260.00. The Alsip Fire Department reported it will be hosting a blood drive in conjunction with the Illinois Fire Chiefs Association and Lifesource. The blood drive will be at the sprinkler fitters building at 11900 S. Laramie, from 1 to 7 p.m. Information can be found on the village's website and www.lifesource.org. Appointments are recommended.

(Pictured from left to right) Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana Troop 50247 members Avery Jasudowicz, 8, from Oak Lawn and Miara Mitchem, 8, from Alsip kicked off the Girl Scout Cookie Program on January 5. The girls were among more than 5,300 fellow Girl Scouts and family members gathering at the Allstate Arena to learn the basics of money management, product marketing, interacting with customers, and goal setting.

Cookies are now on sale and customers are encouraged to visit www.girlscoutsgcnwi.org or call (855) ILOVEGS to connect to local Girl Scouts who are selling cookies in their area.

Crestwood forced to raise water rates

by Jan Glaz

The Village of Crestwood amended an Ordinance the Water and Sewer Rates as prescribed in the Crestwood Village Code on January 3rd at the Village of Crestwood Board of Trustees Meeting. Mayor Robert Stranezek commented that the rate hike, an average of .37 cents per 1000 gallons of water, stems from the City of Chicago instituting a 15% rate increase in the amount it charges for water, effective January 1, 2013, which in turn has caused the Village of Crestwood's water supplier, the Village of Alsip, to increase its rate to Crestwood.

In addition the Village of Crestwood also continues to deem it necessary to make capital improvements to the village's aging water system and that the additional charge of .33 cents per 1000 gallons, instituted on January 1, 2012, will remain in effect to cover the aforementioned capital improvement costs.

Notable Village Accolade: Detective Chris Soderlund of the Crestwood Police Department reported that he was proud to announce that the Crestwood Police Department is the highest fundraising Department in Illinois for 2012 and that $50,441.17 was raised for the Special Olympics. Soderlund also promised another great year of fundraising in 2013 as the "Crestwood Copsicles" are busy organizing their annual Polar Plunge for March 2nd, and also they will return to the roof of Dunkin Donuts, 13661 S. Cicero, for the fundraiser "Cop on Top" on May 31st. To join any event or donate, you may email Detective Soderlund at: csoderlund@crestwood.illinois.gov .

Before the meeting adjourned officials accepted the bonds and oaths of Matthew Ronan to the Police Department and Daniel Jurka, Sr. to the Fire Department. Appointments were considered subject to their signing their Bond and Oath, term expiring April 30th 2013, for Richard Wyman and Christopher Spencer as Part-Time Master Sergeant at a rate of $14.50 per hour.

Midlothian bond refunding one step away

by Jan Glaz

An ordinance passed at the January 9th Midlothian Village Board Meeting that moves Midlothian a step closer to refinancing bonds. The Ordinance provides for the issuance of General Obligation Refunding Bonds Series 2013 in the Principle Amount Not to exceed $3 Million. A representative of the Securities Company involved in the transaction confirmed that with the approval Board Action for the refunding of the 2010 bond issue is under way. The final step is completing negotiations towards obtaining a commitment for bond insurance for the issue, when that's done the village will be in a position to price the bonds. The pricing timeline is around the end of January and closing of the bond issue about two weeks thereafter. Interest rates are still strong for refinancing and restructure: aimed at 1.2%, down from a previous quote of 3 to 4 per cent. Upon hearing the rate, Trustee Karen Kreis said, "You know our situation, 1.2%... you've made my day, thank you." Mayor Stephens commented that this effort will aid in the Village cash flow.

Three important invoices met with approval: Loung's Corporation in an amount of $82,843.15 for the renovation of the Village Hall, which has been approved by Architecture, Ltd. and two invoices from J & L Electronics in the amounts of $5,116.80 and $277.50 for a total amount of $5,394.30.

Village Updates before the meeting adjourned: James Lang, City Administrator, updated the progress on the 147th and Cicero TIF district property. The district will be smaller than originally planned and within a week the village should be able to put together figures related to the smaller district and the redevelopment. Mayor Stephens confirmed that the Razik family will be leasing the space of the former Family Pride Store on Pulaski to Airport Cycle Sales, Inc. The details have been ironed out and the village is waiting for a signed agreement from Airport Cycle Sales, hopefully, by mid-January. Martin Pavilonis, owner of Airport Cycles, is in a current lease in Chicago which is expiring in March. He would like to move forward as quickly as possible in relocating to Midlothian. Mayor Stephens requested a special committee meeting to hasten the proceedings and it was agreed that a meeting was possible.

Advertise in our Valentine Day issue on
February 5, 2013 issue.
Flower Shops, Limo's, Candy Shops, Ice Cream Parlors, Resturants, Deli's, Bakery's, Card & Gift Shops, Grocery Stores, Meat Markets, Dress Shops
Call Linda at 708-425-1910.

In order of appearance in photo, top row, left to right: Raymond Antos, Daniel Drew, Jordan Daniel Douglas Carbol, Zachary Maderak, U.S. Rep. Dan Lipinski (IL-3), Nicholas Scott Paneral, Mark Milavickas, Kevin Goosherst. Bottom row, left to right: David B. Jackson Jr., Daniel Joseph Hecker, Mark John Cavaleri, Ryan Speir, Brett Heimerdinger, True Merritt, Kevin Moss.

Lipinski announces Service Academy nominees

U.S. Rep. Dan Lipinski (IL-3) announced today that he is nominating 16 high school seniors from the 3rd Congressional District for admission to the U.S. Service Academies for the entering classes of 2013. The nominees were recognized by Lipinski for their achievement at a recent ceremony at the Chicago Public Library in the Garfield Ridge community.

"I am extremely proud to nominate these young men and women for our country's prestigious service academies. Each year, my office receives hundreds of applications from students requesting to be nominated. These nominees were judged by the strictest criteria that took into consideration all of their high school activities and accomplishments," Lipinski said. "Just to be nominated to one of our nation's service academies is an honor. I am confident that each of these nominees will make major contributions no matter what path they take in life. They have already demonstrated a commitment to their community and country, and have shown a desire to serve others."

The nominees are:

• U.S. Air Force Academy: Aaron Brown, of LaGrange Park, Lyons Township High School; Mark John Cavaleri Jr., of Hickory Hills, Amos Alonzo Stagg High School; James Chamberlin, Ellsworth Air Force Base, Ellsworth, S.D.; Kevin Goosherst, of Chicago, St. Rita High School; Brett Heimerdinger, of LaGrange, Lyons Township High School.

• U.S. Military Academy: Jordan Daniel Douglas Carbol, of Chicago, Brother Rice High School; David B. Jackson Jr., of Chicago, Brother Rice High School; Nicholas Scott Paneral, of Berwyn, St. Laurence High School.

• U.S. Merchant Marine Academy: Zachary Maderak, of Chicago, St. Rita High School.

• U.S. Naval Academy: Raymond Antos, of Riverside, Riverside Brookfield High School; Daniel Drew, of Chicago, Marist High School; Daniel Joseph Hecker, of Burbank, St. Laurence High School; True Merrit, of LaGrange Park, Lyons Township High School; Mark Milavickas, of Hickory Hills, St. Laurence High School; Kevin Moss, of Tinley Park, Marist High School; Ryan Speir, of Burr Ridge, Lyons Township High School.

The admissions departments of the service academies make the final decision on acceptance. Each of the nominees will be notified by the service academies in January if they have been accepted.

Hometown news

Army Pfc. Matthew J. Downes has graduated from Basic Combat Training at Fort Leonard Wood, Waynesville, Mo.

During the nine weeks of training, the soldier received instruction in drill and ceremony, weapons, rifle marksmanship qualification, bayonet combat, chemical warfare, field training and tactical exercises, marches, military courtesy, military justice, physical fitness, first aid, and Army history, traditions, and core values.

Downes is the son of Mary Downes of South Fairfield Avenue, Chicago, and Joe Downes of West Wyandot Drive, Palos Heights.

He is a 2009 graduate of St. Rita High School, Chicago.

Bakeries, Deli's, Donut Shops, Sweet Shops, advertise early for Paczki Day, in our February 5, 2013 issue. call for Details at 708-425-1910.

Air National Guard Airman 1st Class Jessie Goytia Jr. graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Goytia is the son of Jessie Goytia of West 88th Place, Oak Lawn.

Musichorale to host instrumental scholarship program

More than $1,000 in prize money to be awarded.

Musichorale, a community choir in Oak Lawn, Ill., is sponsoring an instrumental contest for students in grades 6-12 on Saturday, March 2, 2013, at 10 a.m. The first prize winner will be awarded a $1,000 scholarship toward the further study of music and will be featured on Musichorale's spring concert in April. The contest is open to any junior high school or high school student who is of amateur status and is interested in the study of music.

Students interested in applying may download the contest rules and application online at www.musichorale.org. An application fee of $25 is required; applications must be postmarked by February 10, 2013. Applicants will be notified of their placement in the contest via email. Contestants must provide their own accompanist. Students are required to bring their own instruments, though a piano will be provided for accompanists and pianists alike.

Musichorale sponsors two contests each year, one for vocalists and one for instrumentalists. In 1958, the group awarded its first scholarship established by the Willard Neely Family.

Musichorale is open to anyone in high school or older who loves to sing! The group meets on Tuesday nights at Oak Lawn Community Church, 9000 S. Ridgeland, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. The group sings a variety of music, from Bach to Broadway. Everyone is welcome to join!

Little Company of Mary Hospital implements flu restrictions

Visitors with Flu-like Symptoms are Urged to Stay Home

As the nation fights its way through the worst flu season in more than a decade, healthcare workers at Little Company of Mary Hospital (LCMH) are urging visitors to stay home if they have flu-like symptoms-in order to combat its spread.

LCMH continues to experience an influx in patients having the flu and flu-like symptoms. Potentiat visitors who feel ill or are experieneing upper respiratory problems are asked to stay home. Only two visitors per patient are allowed at any one time. Children under the age of 18 are not permitted in patient areas. The Family Birth Center and Pediatrie Units are restricting siblings from visiting, as these young patients are at greater risk of complications due to the flu.

" We're committed to ensuring the safety of our patients, visitors and staff during flu season and especially during this unusual flu season," says Jane Sullivan, R.N., BSN., M.S., Vice President of Patient Care Services and Chief Nursing Officer at Little Company of Mary Hospital. "We ask that if you are planning to visit a patient and feel ill with any type of upper respiratory problem that you stay at home and delay your visit to keep our patients and staff safe. We recognize that these temporary changes to our visitor policies may be inconvenient, hut they are in everyone's best interest."

Doctors are asking patients who come to the emergency room with flu-like symptoms and can't see their primary care physician-to make use of available disposable surgical masks and hand sanitizer to minimize the spread of germs.

Please prevent the spread of infection:

Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer.

Cover your sneeze or cough with a tissue or sleeve. Please do not visit patients if you are sick.

Frequent and thorough hand washing.

Stay home from work, school or general public if you have a fever, cough, sore throat, body aches and pains, or other symptoms like nausea or vomiting sometimes associated with influenza.

Avoiding people exhibiting symptoms of a flu-like illness.

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We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

Evergreen Park Public Library events

Summer Reading Art Contest

Summer Reading Art Contest. Children in Kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to design a poster for the 2013 Summer Reading Program. Posters should reflect the theme. "Have Book--Will Travel." Entries are due by February 28, 2013. Stop at the youth services desk for the official entry form.

Computer Basics

On Mondays and Fridays, through January 25, 2013 from 10:00 am-noon, a Computer Basics class will be offered. These classes are for adults that have limited knowledge of computers. Learn the main parts of a computer, the keyboard, how to use the mouse, and common computer terminology. There is a $5 refundable deposit per class, payable upon registration. Limit 20 students. This program is funded through the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, "Bridging the Digital Divide" grant.

Breakfast of Champions with Chef Kate

Culinary program for adults on Wednesday, January 16 at 6:30 pm. Kurt Vonnegut's "Breakfast of Champions" title inspires Chef Kate to steer your towards healthy breakfast habits in 2013 with a macrobiotic menu.. Samples to taste and copies of Chef Kate's recipes will be given. Registration and a $3.00 tasting fee are required. Limit 60 participants.

Writing Workshop: "The Three C's of Writing"

On Thursday, January 17 at 3:30 pm, adults and students of high school age are invited to a "The Three C's of Writing Workshop" with author Charles J. Shields. Mr. Shields introduces the Three C's: Cogency, Clarity, and Coherence and will invite writers to read aloud samples of their work for no more than five minutes apiece which will then be critiqued. Registration is required and limited.

Meet Author Charles J. Shields. And So It Goes: Kurt Vonnegut

On Thursday, January 17 at 7:00 pm, a presentation and book signing for author Charles J. Shields. Mr. Shields will sign copies of his book And So It Goes: Kurt Vonnegut: A Life which will be available for purchase before or after the presentation. Please register.

Weekend Quilters at the Evergreen Park Public Library!

Monthly meeting of "Weekend Quilters" on Saturday, January 19 from 1:00 until 3:00 pm. Instructor Penny Nichols will share her knowledge of quilt of how to make main street houses, month by month. You will receive the patterns each month to construct a calendar of quilts that can be used alone as wall hangings or assembled into a quilt top. This is a demonstration class, led by Penny Nichols; no sewing machine required. Whether you are a beginner or seasoned veteran quilter, you can enjoy learning how to make various different and ongoing traditional and art quilt projects. You do not need to bring a sewing machine to these sessions.

Google Analytics at the EP Library!

On Saturday, January 19 from 9:30 am until 12:30 pm, a Google Analytics class will be offered. A Certified Google Apps Professional introduces you to Google Analytics, how to set up an account, the functions and power of Analytics, how to integrate it with your personal/business website, basics of search engine optimization, analyzing visitor metrics, practical usage of Analytics, and Google Local. This program is funded through the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, "Bridging the Digital Divide" grant.

Furby Frenzy!

On Saturday, January 19 from 2:00 pm, teens, grades K-5, should bring their Furbies for a Furby Frenzy! Registration required.

The Evergreen Park Public Library will he closed on Monday, January 21

In honor of Martin Luther King Day on Monday, January 21, 2013.

Free Hatha Yoga Classes

Free Hatha Yoga classes for adults and teens on either Tuesday, January 22 at 10:00 am or Tuesday, January 29 at 6:30 pm. Classes will be taught by Evergreen Park resident and certified yoga instructor Joan Zigulich of Yoga Pathways. Attendees are asked to bring yoga mat. All ability levels welcome: no previous experience needed. Registration for each class required.

iPad Apps for Business

"iPad Apps for Business" on Tuesday, January 22 at 6:30 pm. Tech Specialist Jack Waddick reviews apps that will increase your productivity--whatever your business is! Jack will share many tips, tricks, and tools of the Apple iPad as well as live-demo several of the top iPad communication, productivity and payment apps. Please register.

Crochet Club – Learn to Crochet!

Crochet Club – Learn to Crochet for adults and teens on Tuesdays, January 22 through February 19 from 6:30 until 8:30 pm. Beginners bring an H/8 crochet hook; yarn will be provided. All others should bring a current project. Registration required.

Indoor Scavenger Hunt

On Tuesday, January 22 from 7:00-8:00 pm, teens, grades 6-12 are invited to work in teams and use the library's resources to find the answer to each question. The team with the most correct answers in the shortest amount of time will be the winners. Registration is required.

Ninjago

On Wednesday, January 23 from 6:30 to 7:15 pm, children, grades K-5, will listen to stories, play games and participate in activities based on the popular Ninjago series. Registration required.

For more information, call (708) 422-8522 or visit evergreenparklibrary.org.

Evergreen Park Public Library is located at 9400 South Troy.

Little Company of Mary seeks hospice volunteers

Little Company of Mary Hospital and Health Care Centers invites members of the community to become a Hospice Volunteer. The Hospice Program provides compassionate care to patients with a terminal diagnosis. Patients are cared for in their homes surrounded by the people who love them.

The Hospice program at Little Company of Mary is one of the first in the area and has been serving the terminally ill in their homes since 1976. The program provides spiritual, medical, emotional and social support to those in the final stages of life – and their families.

"It is our goal to help our patients find comfort and peace in their final days," explained Little Company of Mary Hospice Resource Nurse Ann Putlak, R.N. "The volunteer plays an important role in our ministry to the dying. They listen, reminisce, and reassure the patient through touch and kind words. The volunteer also provides support to the family, allowing them to run errands or to take a break from 24-hour caregiving."

Hospice volunteers are trained and supervised and can work in the patient's home, nursing home, or in the hospice office where they provide administrative support to the Hospice team.

"Hospice volunteers are full of love, compassion and patience," Putlak continued. "They have such a strong desire to be there for the other person, especially at such an important and spiritual time in their lives."

Training will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, January 19th & 26th. Attendance is required at both sessions. If you ure interested in becoming a Hospice Volunteer and want more information or can't attend both sessions, please call Ann Putlak at 708.229.6901.

Louis S. Viverito Senior Center announces Super Bowl bingo

The Louis S. Viverito Senior Center will be sponsoring "Super Bowl Bingo" on Thursday, January 31, 2013 beginning at 9:30 a.m. The bingo party will be held at the Louis S. Viverito Senior Center located at 7745 S. Leamington Ave. in Burbank. Join us for bingo, raffles, snacks and lunch. Registration in advance is required. Please call (708) 636-8850 for more information.

Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce to host 67th annual installation event

Members and supporters of the Oak Lawn business community will gather on Saturday, January 19th at the Hilton Oak Lawn (9333 S. Cicero Ave.) to honor the 2013 Officers and Directors of the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce during the 67th Annual Installation. This year's theme is "The Roaring Twenties". Tickets cost $50 per person and include a four-course dinner and a cash bar.

The evening begins with cocktails at 6:00 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m. and the Installation of the Board of Directors and Business Award Presentation at 8:30 p.m. Music, Dancing and Casino fun begin at 9:00 p.m.

Jeff Reichl of Marquette Bank will be inducted us the 2013 President of the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Reichl succeeds Karen Boll of Hawk Ford. Also inducted will be First Vice President, Michelle Williams of First Midwest Bank; Second Vice President Jennifer Coriell of 21st Century Chiropractic; Treasurer, Larry Lehman of Liberty Tax Services; and Secretary, Adam Woodworth of The Children's Museum in Oak Lawn. Past President Jack Baker of Marquette Bank will serve as Master of Ceremonies.

The Installation of the 2013 Board will be led by Village President, Dave Heilmann. Members of the Board include: Peggy Burke (First American Bank), Dr. Sandra Bury (Complete Vision Care), George Cachares (Southwest Physical Therapy), Joe Cwiklinski (Century 21 Accent), Larry Deetjen (Village of Oak Lawn), Vito DiPerte (Kelly Nissan), Luura Erner (St. Xavier University), Brian Ferrell (MetLife), Dr. David Finkelstein (Oak Lawn Foot & Ankle), Rick Harmon (Hilton Oak Lawn), Robert Harrison (Advocate Christ Medical Center), Patti Johnson (Suburban Bank & Trust), Nancy Mabbott (Advocate Children's Hospital), Ninae Mondello (NGM Services), Karen Moran (Together We Cope) Ginger Morgan (Thompson & Kuenster F.H.), Jonathan Perry (Park Lawn), Vicki Scanlon (Standard Bank & Trust), Mike Sutko (World Travel Mart),

For more information, or to purchase tickets for the dinner, please call the Chamber office at 708-424-8300 or email office@oaklawnchamber.com

Worth Park District Historical Museum

The Worth Park District Historical Museum is hosting local historian Kevin Korst to discuss his latest book "Images of America: Oak Lawn" on Wednesday, January 16th at 7pm. Korst will present an interactive discussion and slide show about the rich history of Oak Lawn. The presentation is Free. His book will be available for purchase for $21.99

The Worth Park District Historical Museum's book "Images of America: Worth, Illinois" is available for purchase at the Worth Park District for $20. The book details over 200 photographs of Worth's history. The Museum is located at 11500 S. Beloit,3 blocks West of Harlem Ave.

For more information please call 708-448-7080 or visit us online at www.worthparkdistrict.org and on facebook under "Worth Park District Historical Museum".

Advertise in all
4 newspapers and
On Line for one price
call for details at
708-425-1910.

Oak Lawn Library announcements

"Movie and Dessert" Fundraiser

"Movie and Dessert" fundraiser Thursday, Feb. 14. The Valentine's Day event includes a screening of the romantic, indulging drama "Chocolat" and scrumptious sweets provided by local area bakeries and restaurants.

The film starts at 6 p.m. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. "Movie and Dessert" will be held in the lower level meeting rooms.

Tickets are $25 per person. Register and pay (cash or check) by Sunday, Feb. 10 at the library's first-floor Reception Booth. Tickets will not be sold the day of the event.

In "Chocolat" a woman and her daughter open a chocolate shop in a small French village that shakes up the rigid morality of the community. Starring Juliette Binoche, Judi Dench, Johnny Depp and Alfred Molina. Rated: PG-13. Running time: 121 min. 2000.

Proceeds from the fundraiser benefit the Oak Lawn Community Library Foundation - a non-profit organization governed by volunteer community members. The Foundation was started in 1993 to seek private sector support for maintaining the excellence of materials and services offered by the Oak Lawn Public Library.

Free Family Movie: "The Fox and the Hound"

Free family movie screening of "The Fox and the Hound" on Monday, Jan. 21 at 2 p.m. Two childhood animal friends find themselves forced to become enemies. Rated: G. Running time: 83 min. 1981.

Creating Photo Books with Flare

Vivienne Porter of C3 Solutions, Inc. will present "Creating Photo Books with Flare" on Wednesday, Jan. 23 at 7 p.m. Learn how to create a professional looking photo book from your digital photos using the popular photo printing websites. Porter will demonstrate how to import your photos into the photo printing website, and how to create standard layouts and your own custom page layouts; and provide tips for organizing photos. Other topics include background templates, scanned images and more.

Free Movie: "Moonrise Kingdom"

Free movie screening of "Moonrise Kingdom" on Friday, Jan. 25 at 10 a.m. Set on an island off the coast of New England in the summer of 1965, Moonrise Kingdom tells the story of two 12-year-olds who fall in love, make a secret pact and run away together into the wilderness. As authorities search for them, the peaceful island community is turned upside down. Nominated for a Golden Globe in the category of Best Motion Picture - Comedy or Musical. Starring Bruce Willis, Edward Norton, Bill Murray and Frances McDormand. PG-13. 94 min. 2012.

Open Mic Readings

Join us on Saturday, Jan. 26 at 1 p.m. for an afternoon of drama, humor, inspiration and beauty expressed through words. Local writers are invited to share their own original poetry and short stories. Five minute time limit per reader. Light refreshments will be provided.

Dave DiNaso

Free Sunday family program for children of all ages on Sunday, Jan. 27 from 3-4 p.m. in the lower level meeting rooms. Have you ever felt the sharp spines on the back of an iguana or stared into the eyes of an alligator? Join Dave DiNaso in an up-close, hands-on exhibit and educational experience about reptiles and amphibians from around the world. Audience members will be encouraged to touch animals under close supervision. Children need to be able to sit still and follow directions for this program.

Opera Lecture: Die Meistersinger von Nurnberg

Free lecture on the opera "Die Meistersinger von Nurnberg" on Sunday, Jan. 27 at 1:30 p.m. At this informative session, a member of the Lyric Opera Lecture Corps will explain the plot, play musical selections and give background on the composer. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Oak Lawn Public Library.

For more information about these and other library programs, call (708) 422-4990 or visit www.oaklawnlibrary.org.

Oak Lawn Public Library is located at 9427 S. Raymond Ave.

Spring resale at Southwest Chicago Christian School

Southwest Chicago Christian School is holding a Spring/Summer Children's Clothing and Equipment Resale on Saturday, March 9 from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon-in the gym at their Oak Lawn campus, 5665 West 101st Street. Interested sellers may register at the Oak Lawn campus on Saturday, February 2 from 8:30-10:00 a.m. and at the Tinley Park campus, 17171 S. 84th Ave., on Tuesday, February 5 from 4:30-6:00 p.m. The seller's fee is $8. Phone registration will be held February 6-13, with a registration fee of $12. Space is limited! Call the school office at 708-636-8550 to find out how to register by phone. The seller will receive 70% of their profit; the school receives the other 30%. The sale will be cash only. No children or baskets/bags will be allowed into the sale.

Check out classes offered this spring at Moraine Valley's Tinley Park campus

Looking for a shorter commute for classes at Moraine Valley Community College? Look no further. The college will offer more than 60 classes, beginning Jan. 19, at its Southwest Education Center (SWEC), 17900 S. 94th Ave. in Tinley Park.

Some credit classes include Composition I and II, Keyboarding I, Art Appreciation, Principles of Marketing, College Algebra, Introduction to Psychology, Medical Terminology, General Sociology, Spanish I, and Music Appreciation. There are also several noncredit classes offered at SWEC including Plus 50 Internet Basics, Positive Thinking for Life, "Reel" Classic Films, and Beginning Conversational Spanish.

A complete listing of all the classes at SWEC and credit and noncredit classes offered at all Moraine Valley campuses can be found in the spring 2013 class schedule or online at morainevalley.edu. Registration is ongoing. Tuition is $104 per credit hour plus fees and books. Students who have applied to the college can register in the Registration Office, located on the main campus in the Student Services Center (Building S), 9000 W. College Pkwy. in Palos Hills; by phone at (708) 974-2110 (TTY for the hearing impaired 708-974-9556); or online at morainevalley.edu.

Park Lawn raffle Venetian Hotel trip for four

Tickets are on sale for Park Lawn's Venetian Hotel Trip for Four Raffle with the winner receiving an Italian themed escape for 4 days and 3 nights.

The trip would include 2 luxurious suites at the Venetian Hotel – Las Vegas, outdoor gondola ride, a visit to Madame Tussauds Interactive Wax Attraction, spectacular dinner at a Venetian Hotel restaurant, a popular Vegas show of your choice, and 4 round trip Southwest airfare and hotel-airport transfers.

Park Lawn's Trip for 4 to the Venetian Hotel raffle tickets cost $100 each and only 500 tickets will be sold. This trip is transferrable to another destination up to a $4,500.

The Venetian Hotel Trip for Four Park Lawn raffle drawing will take place on Saturday, February 16, 2013.

The drawing will take place at the DoubleTree Hotel in Alsip during Park Lawn's "A Rhapsody in Blue" live and silent auction. Tickets to the auction are sold separately. Winner need not be present to win. Tickets and more information are available by calling 708-425-6867, or visit Park Lawn located at 10833 S. LaPorte in Oak Lawn.

Local non-profit organization Park Lawn Association provides residential and vocational support through a total of 12 facilities throughout the South Suburbs of Chicago for more than 450 individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The raffle proceeds will benefit the Park Lawn programs and services provided to hundreds of individuals with developmental disabilities. It is the vision of Park Lawn's Board of Directors, families and staff to be well recognized in our field and the community for our quality programs, expert and caring staff, and dedicated volunteers. This will be accomplished while reducing the reliance on state funding from 75% to 50% of our budget. Park Lawn's mission is to provide services that promote independence, choice and access to community living for people with developmental disabilities.

American Legion music nights

Friday & Saturday live music from 8 to 11pm at Marrs-Meyer American Legion, 11001 S Depot, Worth. For more information call 708-448-7006 press 6 for bar and list of individuals playing.

One man shows except

Jan 19th RicoQuinn Band (4pc)

Jan 26th Still Cruisin Ban (3pc)

Jan 25 Juke Box Night

All are welcome, no cover charge.

Palos Township health service

Palos Township Health Service will host Kim Kumiega, a community outreach representative, for a seminar on Memories and Aging. The seminar is on January 25, 2013 from 9am-11am at Palos Township at 10802 South Roberts Road in Palos Hills. Please call the Health Service at 708-598-2441 to RSVP.

American Legion Auxiliary January meeting

The Evergreen Park American Legion Auxiliary, Post 854, will hold their monthly meeting on Monday, January 28, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. The Auxiliary holds regularly scheduled meetings on the fourth Monday of the month at the American Legion Post 854, 9701 S. Kedzie Ave. in Evergreen Park. The Auxiliary is organized and committed to helping veterans and their families, active service men and women, and the community, as well as to promote patriotism. Call Dian Kinahan at 708-229-2129 for information about eligibility and joining the Auxiliary.

Worth Park District upcoming events

History of Oak Lawn

Historian Kevin Korst will present a history of Oak Lawn based on his recent book "Images of America, Oak Lawn". Take a journey back in time to discover the rich history of Oak Lawn through an interactive slide show. His book will be available for purchase for $21.99. Wednesday, January 16 at 7pm located at the Terrace Centre.

Senior Gala

Join the Park District as we celebrate Valentine's Day in our own special way. We will enjoy a delicious lunch, refreshments, play bingo, have a raffle, giveaways and enjoy light music. Wednesday, February 6 from 12-2pm located at the Terrace Centre. Fee $10 residents, $15 non.

Feature Display

Worth's Political Past. The museum will feature several of Worth's old political organizations like the Worth Homeowners Association, the Action Party and others that have helped or hindered progress in town. Come and learn about Worth's political past in a pictorial display from January 15 through April 15.

For more information, please call the Worth Park District at (708) 448-7080 or visit www.worthparkdistrict.org.

Worth Park District is located at 11500 S. Beloit (3 Blocks West of Harlem on 115th Street).

McDonald's Night fundraiser to benefit Veterans Memorial Middle School students

Veterans Memorial Middle School will be holding a McDonald's Night fundraiser on Monday, January 28 at the McDonald's located at 11920 S. Western Avenue in Blue Island. From 5 to 8 pm, 15 percent of all sales will be donated to help support the Veterans Memorial Middle School eighth grade Washington, D.C. trip. Treat your family to dinner and support Veterans Memorial Middle eighth graders! For additional information, please contact Vicki Cole at 708-489-8342 or email vcole@district130.org.

Midlothian Public Library hosts AARP driving course

The Midlothian Public Library,14701 S. Kenton Ave., is hosting an AARP Driver Safety program on Thursday and Friday, January 24th and 25th from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Cars have changed. So have the traffic rules, driving conditions, and the roads you travel every day. Some drivers age 50-plus have never looked back since they got their first driver's licenses, but even the most experienced benefit from brushing up on their driving skills. You can expect to learn current rules of the road, defensive driving techniques, and how to operate your vehicle more safely in today's increasingly challenging driving environment. Drivers who complete the 8-hour course may be eligible for car insurance premium reduction. The fee for the course is $12.00 for AARP members who show a valid membership card, or $14.00 for non-AARP members. To register for the class, call the reference desk at Midlothian Public Library 708-535-2027 or register online at www.midlothianlibrary.org

Blue Island Home Movie Night could star you, Dad and Aunt Edna

Arts Alliance and Historical Society to Showcase Family Films.

The Blue Island Arts Alliance—dedicated to enlivening cultural and educational events in the City of Blue Island—is inviting community members to share their vintage family films at the Blue Island & Neighbors Home Movie Night. The event will coincide with the Blue Island Historical Society's Second Annual Open House. Movie Night will be held:

Sunday, Jan. 27, 2013
6–8 p.m.
Alhee House, 13018 Maple Ave., Blue Island, IL

The Blue Island & Neighbors Home Movie Night is a celebration of amateur films and filmmaking. Guests are invited to bring vintage films (16mm, 8mm, and Super 8) from their personal collection to share. Archivists from the Chicago Film Archives will be present with their projectors to inspect the celluloid home movies and project them in front of a live audience.

"Home movies are an important visual record of our history and culture. Archivists will be available to share expert advice for preserving your films for future generations," said Becky Denny, Blue Island Arts Alliance board president. "Film is a wonderful art, and vintage films like these capture our shared history in a unique, interesting, and entertaining way."

Blue Island & Neighbors Home Movie Night will take place during the evening session of the Blue Island Historical Society's Second Annual Open House. There will be a suggested donation at the door, and popcorn and vintage candies for purchase. For more information about the Historical Society's Open House, please visit www.blueislandhistoricalsociety.com.

About Blue Island Arts Alliance

The Blue Island Arts Alliance is a group of individuals who are passionate about the City of Blue Island, its legacy of culture and entertainment, and its potential to attract engaging events and engaged audiences. The group's mission is to educate, entertain, inspire, and connect the community through the arts. Blue Island Arts Alliance believes that "Wonderful Things Can Happen Here."

About the Blue Island Historical Society

The Blue Island Historical Society works to bring together people who are interested in history, and especially in the history of Blue Island. Located in the 134-year-old BIHS/Alhee House at 13018 Maple Avenue, BIHS sponsors events and presentations throughout the year.

City of Oak Forest e-briefs

Are you a veteran? Don't miss this local networking event just for you!

The VFW Bremen Post 2791 (17417 S. Oak Park Avenue) will host a networking event for veterans on Wednesday, January 23 at 7 p.m. Topics covered during the event include: resume writing, interviewing skills, mentoring, leadership traits, and much more.

Join the Senior Citizens Commission at its monthly lunch

The Senior Citizens Commission will host its monthly lunch program on Thursday, January 24 at 11 a.m. at the Community Center (155th and Kilpatrick). The Wiseguys will bring back all of your favorite memories with hits from Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Bobby Darin, and many more. The $4 ticket includes lunch and bingo and can be purchased at City Hall.

Plan on running the Fleadh 5K? Register by February 11 to order a dry-tech t-shirt

Participants who register by February 11 will have the option to purchase a long-sleeve dry tech shirt for an additional $5. After February 11, all participants will receive a long-sleeve cotton shirt.

Question of the Week

Can my family walk in the Oak Forest Fleadh parade?

Yes, families; community, school and religious groups; and members of the Oak Forest-Crestwood Area Chamber of Commerce are welcome to walk in the parade on March 9. Parade applications are due by February 27.

Are you running for Election in 2013?
Let the voters know where you stand.
Advertise early!
Call Linda for details at 708-425-1910.

Sertoma United Members (left to right) Baltazar Alpuche, Archie Garrett, Derrick Hudson and Tanya Crew, delivered a vanload of food, diapers, clothing and personal hygiene products to Together We Cope in Tinley Park, IL.

Together We Cope benefits from Sertoma United Food Drive

Sertoma Self-Advocates Pay It Forward

Sertoma Centre, Inc. is a social service agency serving individuals with disabilities which depends on the community for support. Those who provide financial support or donate their time often feel good about making a difference in the lives of others. Sertoma United members also enjoy the feeling of paying it forward. Members of Sertoma United delivered a vanload of non- perishable items to Together We Cope in Tinley Park, IL. This is their 3rd food drive and the second year they donated to Together We Cope.

Their timing could not have been better with so many food pantries and crisis centers running on empty after the holidays. The group also felt that since our country has been struggling through tough financial times, there was no more important time than now for this project. Sertoma United is Sertoma's Self Advocacy program which encourages its members to advocate for themselves and others. Member, Derrick Hudson said, "I want to thank Together We Cope for helping to get food to those people who need it. I would like to participate with Together We Cope more in the future." The program seeks to teach individuals with disabilities at Sertoma Centre the skills to advocate for their goals and desires in life. For more information about this program please contact Melissa Sands at 708-730-6343 or msands@sertomacentre.org.

Together We Cope is a not-for –profit that serves families and individuals who are going through a crisis. The organization provides clothing, food, financial assistance and guides families in more than 20 communities throughout Bremen, Palos, Orland and Worth townships.

Sertoma Centre, Inc. is a nationally-accredited, not-for-profit agency that provides services for more than 725 individuals with developmental, physical and emotional disabilities, and/or mental illness. For more information, to schedule a tour, volunteer or to make a donation, please contact Amy Chmura, Director of Advancement and Communications, Sertoma Centre, 4343 West 123rd Street, Alsip, IL 60803, (708) 730-6206, or achmura@sertomacentre.org. For additional resources visit www.sertomacentre.org.

Senior Citizen Special

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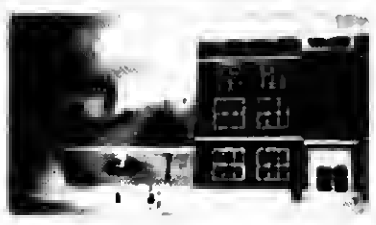
January 27th, 11am-1:30pm

Tours of the school are available upon request.

Registration is now available for 2013-2014 school year.



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Together We Work for the Children We Love

Village of Orland Park winter rec programs

Village of Orland Park Offers Chicago White Sox Club Camps

The Chicago White Sox Club Camps are designed to improve fundamental baseball skills and develop advanced skills for the premier/elite players.

With the Bulls-Sox Academy in its Sportsplex, the Village of Orland Park Recreation Department offers programs including the Fastpitch Hitting Club, Fastpitch Pitching Club, Elite Defense Club, Baseball Hitting Club, Baseball Pitching Club, Mini Get Ready Now, Baseball Offense Club, and Baseball Defense Club. Each camp meets on Tuesdays for four weeks from January through March at the Sportsplex at 11351 W. 159th St. Programs are available for kids and teens age seven to 17. Resident fees range from $102.00 to $122.00, while nonresident fees range from $128.00 to $153.00.

Chicago Bulls Camp Offered at Village of Orland Park Sportsplex

Chicago Bulls Camps are designed to improve fundamental skills for the beginning athlete and develop advanced skills for the premier/elite players. With the Bulls-Sox Academy in its Sportsplex, the Village of Orland Park Recreation Department offers camps led by Chicago Bulls Academy instructors with professional and/or collegiate experience and trained by the Chicago Bulls coaches.

Four different types of camps are available, including FUNdamentals Camp, Ball Handling, Shooting Camp, and Advanced Skills & Drills. Each camp meets on Tuesdays for four weeks from January through March at the Village of Orland Park Sportsplex at 11351 W. 159th St. Programs are available for kids and teens age five to 17. Resident fees range from $112.00 to $132.00, while nonresident fees range from $140.00 to $165.00.

Village of Orland Park Offers Dance for Everyone

The Village of Orland Park Recreation Department is offering dance programs for all ages. A variety of classes will be held between January and May. Classes for children include Preschool Dance, Pre Ballet / Tap Dance Classes, Mommy & Me Dance, Pixie Poms, and Boys Only Hip Hop. Children, adolescents, and teens can participate in the Dance Technique Class, Irish Dance, and a variety of Youth Dance Classes—Ballet, Jazz, Tap, and Hip Hop. Adults may participate in Couples Dance, Adult Jazz, and Line Dancing. Private dance lessons are also available upon request at various times.

Village of Orland Park Sportsplex Hosts Indoor Sports Programs

The Village of Orland Park Recreation Department is offering a number of indoor sports programs this winter.

For little ones ages 18 months to two years, My First Sports Class is a great way to introduce children to a variety of sports including soccer, basketball, t-ball, floor hockey, etc.

Kids age three to six can participate in several different sport classes including Little Swingers T-ball, Super Sport Preschool Games, Pip Squeak Soccer, Flag Football for Kids, Mini Dribblers Basketball, and Pee Wee Floor Hockey.

Those age five to eight will enjoy the Shoot 2 Score Basketball Academy. Boys and girls age six and up may register for Indoor Hitting/Pitching Lessons.

Kids age seven to eleven are invited to hone their skills in the Fundamental Baseball Clinics. Attack Volleyball is open to age five to 15 while Baseball Off Season Conditioning is open to those age eight to 15.

Adults planning to participate in the village's annual March 9 Sportsplex Duathlon are encouraged to register for the Duathlon Training Camp.

Master "The Rock" at the Village of Orland Park Sportsplex

It's 32 feet high, equipped with ropes, leads and auto belays and is waiting for you to make it to the top. "The Rock" is Orland Park 's climbing wall, located in the center of the village's Sportsplex. Free to Sportsplex members, the climb for village residents is $3.00 and $6.00 for non-village residents.

Drop in climb time is offered Monday through Friday, 4 p.m. to 7p.m.; Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

See the Village of Orland Park 2013 Winter Recreation Program Guide for more information. The full guide can be accessed at www.orland-park.il.us. Call 708-645-7529 for details.

Join us at Palos Park Library

Children and their families are welcome to join us for the Saturday Morning Matinee at the Palos Park Public Library on Saturday, Feb. 2 at 11 a.m. The film tells the story Tinkerbell, a fairy from Pixie Hollow, and how she discovers a secret that will change her life forever. Run time for the movie is 96 mins. Light refreshments will also be served. The library is located at 12330 Forest Glen Blvd., Palos Park, IL. Call the library to register for the movie event.

Cinderella will make prom wishes come true

Prom is expensive, and many families have more pressing priorities in this economy. That's why Oak Lawn Community High School will offer Cinderella's Closet, a program designed to help our female students get prom gear at a significantly lower cost. All proceeds will help fund a bus for the SADD Post Prom party. So clean out those closets to help make a girl's wish come true.

Cinderella's Closet is a collection of lightly used formal dresses, shoes, accessories, and unopened makeup for girls in need. Students in need can be referred by staff for priority shopping, and the boutique will open to all students after referrals have shopped. All styles, sizes, and colors are welcome. Donations can be dropped off in the OLCHS Student Services Office, Room 117 through February 1, 2013. A tax form is available for all donations. The boutique will be open to the public on Saturday, February 9, 2013.

For more information, contact Kelly Kenny at 708-741-5853 or kkenny@olchs.org and

Maria Vanderwarren at 708-207-8461 or Mariatherese66@gmail.com.

Presbyterian Church arts for kids

The Presbyterian Church in Orland Park, 13401 S. Wolf Road, Orland Park Presents:

Welcome on Wednesdays - W.O.W. Arts for Kids – Begins Wednesday, January 16th

The next nine-week session of our fun, creative, energetic, after-school program for children in grades 1-6 begins January 16th. Cost is just $50 per family. Registration forms are available by calling the church office at 708-448-8142 or please contact Cindy: cindypeop@comcast.net: You are welcome to invite friends and neighbors! You are always Welcome On Wednesdays!

Moraine Valley student one of 23 community college students to receive study abroad scholarship

Moraine Valley Community College student Grecia Salgado always wanted to study abroad but didn't know the opportunity existed at a community college. She recently was selected as one of more than 1,000 undergraduate students from nearly 400 colleges and universities across the country and just one of 23 community college students awarded the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship for study abroad.

Salgado (Palos Heights) received the $4,500 scholarship to help pay for her spring semester program in Seville, Spain, at the International College of Seville and University of Seville starting Jan. 22. She is studying political science with a focus on international relations and will stay with a host family while abroad.

The Gilman Scholarship program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. It aims to diversifying the student pool that studies abroad and the regions they travel to while preparing students for an interdependent world. Since it was established in 2000, more than 13,000 students have received the award.

Not only will Salgado take classes related to her major but learn about Spain's history and get in touch with her own heritage. "I'm Mexican, we have Spanish ancestry, and I want to find out my roots, my heritage," Salgado said. "I've always wanted to study abroad. I have a younger sister, and I want to show her that you can do anything despite your struggles."

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Meany elected President

Commissioner Kathleen Therese Meany, the newly elected President of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago is the first woman to ever serve in this capacity.

President Meany was elected to the Board of Commissioners of the MWRD in 1990 and has served for 22 years. She also served as Vice President of the Board.

Meany is a former Assistant Professor of Political Science at Harold Washington College.

Her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Education was received from Roosevelt University and Master Degree from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Commissioner Barbara McGowan, was re-elected Vice President of the District and Commissioner Mariyana Spyropoulos was elected Chairman of Finance.

Oak Lawn Garden Club

Oak Lawn Garden Club kicks off 2013 with their meeting, Pot Luck and the making of bookmarks on Thursday, January 24th, 2013 at the Oakview Center, 4625 West 110th Street, Oak Lawn, IL at 9:30 a.m. sharp.

Members bring dried flowers from their garden and assemble original bookmarks.

No two alike.

The bookmarks are one of the many fund raisers for the garden club and can be purchased at garden events.

For more information go to www.oaklawngardenclub.org

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171st & 84th Avenue
Kdg – Grade 8
After School Care
Thurs., Feb. 7, 6:30 to 8pm
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Orland Park Area Chamber installs 2013 board

Marc Lochow Installed as New President.

Orland Park Mayor Dan McLaughlin will install the 2013 Board of Directors for the Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce during a ceremony to be held at Silver Lake Country Club on Thursday, January 24 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Silver Lake Country Club is located at 14700 S. 82nd Avenue in Orland Park. All are welcome to attend. The cost for the evening is $45 per person and includes heavy hors d'oeuvres and beer, wine and soft drinks. RSVP to the Chamber office at 708-349-2972.

Marc Lochow, owner of PrintSource Plus will be installed as the Chamber's President. Marc began his career at a tender age as he accompanied his parent's to work with his baby seat fastened to the front counter of his family's print shop. Over the year's Marc mastered the skills of floor sweeping, hustling print proofs and the hands-on capability for producing top quality printing. Marc took over the ownership of PrintSource Plus from his family in 2003. Marc has been a member of the Chamber since 2004 and has been a Chamber Board member since 2006.

Other new Board members installed for 2013 include Susan Byrne, Coldwell Banker; Lynn Cialdella, Parkway Bank & Trust Company; Mike Hardek, Centrue Bank and Keith Massey, First Data. The Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce is a not-for-profit organization that serves as the primary resource for business and the community in Orland Park and the surrounding suburbs.

Palos Park Recreation Department community events

Palos Park Recreation is excited to be offering a variety of early childhood classes, youth activities, youth athletics, teen activities, adult activities, adult athletics, adult fitness, senior activities, fitness and so much more!

Early Childhood

All About Me Jan 17-Feb 21

Exploring Books Jan 17-Feb 21

Fun Nursery Rhymes Jan 17-Mar 21

Arts & Crafts

Pre School Drawing Now-Jan 30

Spanish Class Now-Feb 22

Youth Chess Jan 21-Feb 25

Fitness

Yoga Mon., Tues., Wed.

Zumba Tues., Wed.

Strength Training Tues., Thurs.

Youth Athletics

Tae Kwon Do Jan 17-Mar 14

Girls Volleyball League Jan 18-Mar 8

Floor Hockey Jan 17-Mar 14

Cultural Arts

Music Theater Jan 31-Apr 18

Ballet/Tap/Jazz Jan 28-May 6

Guitar Lessons Now-Mar 13

Mature Adult

Spanish Now-Feb 22

Game Day Tues.

Senior Wellness Tues., Thurs., Sat.

For more information, call 708 671-3760 or view our Winter/Spring Brochure 2013, online at Palospark.org. To register online go to www.activenet15.active.com/palospark or drop by the Palos Park Recreation Department located at 8901 West 123rd Street, Palos Park, Il 60464

The Palos Hills Community Resource & Recreation Dept. will offer new programs at the Palos Hills Activity Center, 8455 W. 103rd St. Palos Hills. Parent and Tot and Youth programs. Parent and Tot classes for ages 2-3 yrs with parent, 11:45 – 12:30 pm, $30.00 Palos Hills Resident / Non-Resident $35.00, per sessions. "Our Special Time Together", Tuesdays, Jan. 22nd – Feb. 26th, "Huggy Bear Twos", Thursday, Feb. 28th – April 4th Play-Well TEKnologies, "Pre-Engineering Fundamentals with LEGO", K-2nd Grade, Wednesday, Feb. 6th 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm $20 per student. "Engineering Fundamentals with LEGO", 3rd -5th Grade, Feb. 13th, 5:30 – 7:00 pm $20 per student. Classes taught by Kaleidoscope group are on Wednesdays, 4:15 – 5:30 pm. $16.00 per student, "Pirates", Jan. 16th, "Future MD's", Feb. 13th ,and "Mummies", May 1st. Cooking / Craft classes for ages 7- 10 years old, Tuesdays, 3:30 – 4:45 pm. $12 per student. "Keep the Winter Warm & Fun" Jan. 29th, "Valentine's Day Sweet, Salty and Saucy" Feb. 12th. "Green & Lucky St. Patrick's Day", March 5th. "Hopping Into Spring", March 26th. Disney Dance Class, Ages 6-10 years old, Saturdays, 1-2pm, $25 per session. Session I Jan. 12th – Feb. 16th, Session II March 2nd April 20th, Session III May 4th – June 15th.

The Palos Hills Community Resource and Recreation Department will be offering Zumba classes starting January 22nd and running through February, 26th. Classes take place at the Community Center located at 8455 W 103rd Street, Palos Hills. Class starts at 7:30pm on Tuesdays The price of this class is $40 for residents and $45 for non-residents, registration is underway, so sign up today.

The Palos Hills Community Resource and Recreation Department will be offering Salsa classes starting January 22nd and running through February, 19th on Tuesday nights. Classes take place at the Community Center located at 8455 W 103rd Street, Palos Hills. Class starts at 6pm for beginners and 7pm for intermediate dancers. The price of these classes is $50 per person; registration is underway, so sign up today.

If you would like more information about these classes, please call 708-430-4500, or visit us online at www.paloshills-web.org.

Village of Orland Park Theatre Troupe announces Annie auditions

Large Ensemble Cast Calls for 50 Kids and 20+ Adults.

Choruses of "Tomorrow....tomorrow....I love ya, tomorrow..." will soon be heard in Orland Park when the village's Orland Park Theatre Troupe holds auditions for its spring musical, "Annie" on January 20 and 21.

Children age six and older are invited to audition and must sing sixteen measures of a prepared piece from the show, be dressed to learn and perform a dance and be able to read from the script. A large ensemble show, "Annie" calls for up to 50 children and more than 20 adults.

"We're very excited to produce 'Annie' for the village's spring musical," said Executive Producer Stephanie Simpson , the Recreation Department program supervisor who oversees the theater program. "This is a great show that includes a sizable cast, enabling lots of people to be a part of it," Simpson said.

Auditions for children, primarily girls, will be held on January 20 from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Orland Park 's Old Village Hall, 14413 South Beacon Avenue . Adults are invited to audition from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. on January 20 and January 21, also at the Old Village Hall. If necessary, call backs will be held January 22. Once cast, participants must pay a $35 registration fee.

"People familiar with the show will remember the large number of girls in the cast, especially the orphans," said Producer/Director Frann Carnivele-Sidlow. "However, we do need some boys to audition too," she added.

Rehearsals will be Sunday afternoons and Monday and Thursday evenings, February 3 through April 25. Performances are April 26-28 at the Carl Sandburg High School Performing Arts Center.

"Annie" is a Broadway musical based on the Harold Gray comic strip, "Little Orphan Annie," by permission of The Tribune Media Services, Inc. The book was written by Thomas Meehan with music by Charles Strouse and lyrics by Martin Charnin.

"This show is full of fun songs that everyone will enjoy performing and the audience will enjoy hearing," Carnivele-Sidlow said. "The Orland Park area is filled with some amazing talent and we're looking forward to having yet another talent rich cast in this village show," she said.

The original Broadway production, directed by Martin Charnin opened in 1977 and ran for nearly six years, winning a Tony Award for best musical. It was presented on Broadway by Mike Nichols, produced by Irwin Meyer, Stephen R. Friedman and Lewis Allen. It was originally produced by The Goodspeed Opera House, Michael P. Price, executive director.

Further information about the Village of Orland Park 's spring production is available by calling the Recreation Department at 708/403-PARK.

Moraine Valley offers EPA certification refresher course testing

Individuals with HVAC training who need the required EPA 608 certification can enroll in a refresher course that includes the certification exam at Moraine Valley Community College, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills. Courses will be offered on Saturday, January 26, and Saturday, March 23, from 8 to 11 a.m. Each course costs $99.

The course is taught by industry professional HVAC instructors and includes a study guide. After the class, participants can take a computer based test for Type I, II, III, and Universal certification. EPA 608 certification is required to service building air conditioning and refrigeration units and to purchase refrigerants.

Register today in person at the Registration Office, located in S125 on campus, or by calling (708) 974-2110 (TTY for the hearing impaired 708-974-9556). Participants also can register online at morainevalley.edu by selecting "Register for Noncredit Classes" under Academic Focus then "Search, register and pay for noncredit classes." Use the course codes MP5-600-271 (January) and -272 (March).

Advertise your Lent Specials in the Village View Newspapers. Details 708-425-1910

Jekyll and Hyde the musical

Broadway In Chicago is thrilled to announce that individual tickets for the all-new production of Jekyll & Hyde are on-sale to the public. Jekyll & Hyde will play the Cadillac Palace Theatre (151 West Randolph St.) for two weeks only, March 12 – 24, 2013.

American Idol star and Tony® Award nominee Constantine Maroulis joins with Grammy® Award nominee and R&B superstar Deborah Cox to inject new life into the classic tale of good and evil, Jekyll & Hyde. After four thrilling, chilling years on Broadway and multiple world-wide tours, this dark and dangerous love story from Tony® and Grammy® Award nominee Frank Wildhorn and Oscar® and Grammy® winner Leslie Bricusse, returns in a stunning new pre-Broadway production directed by Tony® nominee Jeff Calhoun and includes all the classic songs (This is the Moment, A New Life, Someone Like You) that first grabbed audiences by the throat and transformed Jekyll & Hyde into a theatrical phenomenon.

Also starring in the production are Teal Wicks (Wicked) as Emma Carew, Laird Mackintosh (Mary Poppins) as John Utterson, Richard White (Most Happy Fella) as Sir Danvers Carew and David Benoit (Avenue Q, Les Miserables) as Bishop/Spider.

Rounding out the cast are Stephen Mitchell Brown, Jerry Christakos, Dana Costello, Wendy Fox, Brian Gallagher, Sean Jenness, Mel Johnson Jr., James Judy, Ashley Loren, Courtney Markowitz, Aaron Ramey, Emmy Raver-Lampman, Rob Richardson, Blair Ross, Doug Storm, Haley Swindal and Jason Wooten.

Jekyll & Hyde features scenic & costume design by Tobin Ost (Newsies), lighting design by Jeff Croiter (Newsies, Peter and the Starcatcher - Tony Award), sound design by Ken Travis (Newsies) and projection design by Daniel Brodie (Godspell). Orchestrations are by Kim Scharnberg. Musical supervision and arrangements are by Jason Howland.

Jekyll & Hyde is produced by Nederlander Presentations, Inc., Independent Presenters Network, Chunsoo Shin, Luigi Caiola and Stewart F. Lane/Bonnie Comley.

The musical is based on the acclaimed novella The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde by Robert Louis Stevenson, about a London doctor who accidentally unleashes his evil alternate personality in his quest to cure his father's mental illness.

Jekyll & Hyde was first introduced as a concept album in 1990 featuring Colm Wilkinson and Linda Eder, and shortly thereafter had its world premiere at the Alley Theatre in Houston starring Chuck Wagner as Jekyll/ Hyde and Linda Eder as Lucy. Following a 30-city National Tour, the Broadway production opened at The Plymouth Theatre on April 28, 1997 and earned four Tony Award nominations. Directed by Robin Phillips and choreographed by Joey Pizzi, the production starred Robert Cuccioli, who earned a Tony Nomination as well as Joseph Jefferson, Outer Critics Circle and Drama Desk Awards for his portrayal of Jekyll/ Hyde, Linda Eder, who won the Theatre World Award for her Broadway debut, as Lucy and Christianne Noll as Emma Carew. After 1,543 performances, and featuring such replacements as Sebastian Bach and David Hasselhoff in the title role, the production played its final performance on January 7, 2001. The show's popularity catapulted well beyond the Great White Way and, within the subsequent decade of its world premiere, Jekyll & Hyde became an international sensation with multiple tours in the UK and North America, and over a dozen recordings from Germany, Spain, Austria, Hungary, Sweden, the Czech Republic, Japan and South Korea, among others.

Performance Schedule

The performance schedule for Jekyll & Hyde is as follows:

Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.
Wednesdays at 2 & 7:30 p.m. (no matinee performance on March 13)
Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.
Fridays at 7:30 p.m.
Saturdays at 2 & 8 p.m.
Sundays at 2 p.m. (additional performance on March 17 at 7:30 p.m.)

Please note: Ticket prices and performance schedule are subject to change.

Ticket Information

Tickets for Jekyll & Hyde at the Cadillac Palace Theatre range from $33-$95. A select number of premium seats are also available for many performances. Tickets are available now for groups of 10 or more by calling Broadway In Chicago Group Sales at (312) 977-1710. Tickets are available at all Broadway In Chicago Box Offices (24 W. Randolph St., 151 W. Randolph St., 18 W. Monroe St. and 175 E. Chestnut), the Broadway In Chicago Ticket Kiosk at Water Tower Place (845 N. Michigan Ave.), the Broadway In Chicago Ticket Line at (800) 775-2000, all Ticketmaster retail locations and online at www.BroadwayInChicago.com.

For more information, visit www.BroadwayInChicago.com or www.JekyllandHydeMusical.com

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News For Older Americans

To stay warm in winter, older Americans in need should take advantage of local heating assistance funds and utility no-cutoff programs.

Staying safe and warm in colder weather

(NAPSA)-There's good news for older adults concerned about increasing energy costs, particularly during colder months.

The Eldercare Locator has produced a free brochure full of tips on preparing a home for winter weather and saving money on energy costs.

Energy Tips

For those living independently, maintaining their health and safety this winter is imperative. The brochure, "Winter Warmth and Safety: Home Energy Tips for Older Adults," provides valuable information to older adults, their families or caregivers on how to best deal with cold weather challenges.

Some of the tips include:

- Seal air leaks and insulate windows around the home.
- Install a programmable thermostat to make the home more energy efficient.
- Insulate water pipes to avoid freezing and bursting.
- Take advantage of local heating assistance funds and utility no-cutoff programs.
- Do not use your stove or oven to heat your home. Keep batteries and battery-powered flashlights available and, when needed, use flashlights instead of candles.
- Check to make sure that electrical cords on space heaters are not damaged and do not pose a tripping hazard.
- Make sure that smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are installed and working properly.

A Winter Emergency Plan

Extreme weather conditions can sometimes require emergency action. Here are some suggestions on how to prepare for winter emergencies:

- Identify temporary living arrangements in case you are unable to stay in your own home and have a plan for getting there.
- Keep in touch with family and friends. Ask someone to check on you daily-especially if you live alone.
- Plan for your medical needs. Have extra medications on hand or identify a pharmacy that will deliver them to you.
- If you or a loved one in your home has medical equipment, be sure you know how to maintain it or move it in an emergency.
- Share emergency contact information ahead of time with everyone who would need it.

Free Brochure

For a free copy of the brochure, call the Eldercare Locator at (800) 677-1116 or download it at www.eldercare.gov. The Eldercare Locator is a public service of the U.S. Administration on Aging, administered by the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging.

Healthy ideas

(NAPSA)—The Weight-control Information Network (WIN), a service of the National Institutes of Health, offers free booklets: "Just Enough for You: About Food Portions" and "Walking...A Step in the Right Direction" at (877) 946-4627 and www.win.niddk.nih.gov/ publications.

At WhatNext.com, cancer patients, survivors, caregivers and their loved ones can read about the experiences of others who made the same decisions they're considering. To talk about your cancer experiences, find out about others or just learn more, go to www.WhatNext.com.

Solutions for Caregivers provides care planning and coordination services to support the overall well-being of the person getting the care and help alleviate stress for the family. Services can be tailored to your needs. You can learn more at www.WhatIsSolutionsForCaregivers.com or by calling (877) 765-4473.

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or call 708-425-1910.

A Prayer to the Blessed Virgin (Never Known to Fail)

O Most beautiful Flower of Mount Cermel, Fruitful Vine, Splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this, my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother.

O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart, to succor me in this necessity; there are none that can withstand your power.

O, show me herein you are my Mother. O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. (three times)

Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands. (three times)

Thanks for favor received. VL

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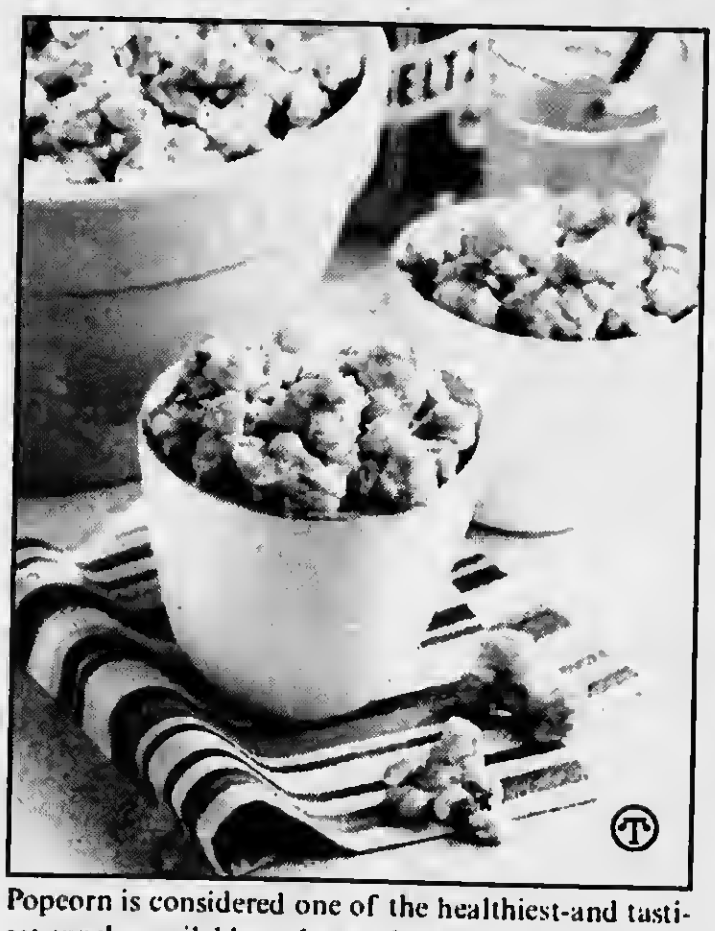

Popcorn is considered one of the healthiest-and tastiest-snacks available and great for any occasion.

Celebrating with popcorn the smart snack alternative

(NAPSA)-When friends and family get together, snacks are usually a big part of the fun. From the big game to the big moment on the red carpet, most agree that it's not a party without snacks adding to the occasinn.

The good news is that servin~ great-tasting snacks doesn't have to mean that your guests will be consuming great quantities of empty or even unhealthy calories. Popcorn is a great choice for today's health-conscious host or party-goer.

"Getting together with friends is always a reason for celebration, but for many Americans who struggle with overeating and weight loss, parties can also be a time to experience anxiety about food," said Garrett Smith, president of JOLLY TIME Pop Corn. "But it's easy to relax and make the right food choices. Just prioritize foods that aren't full of empty calories and enjoy them in moderation."

Many people don't realize that popcorn can be one of the healthiest snacks available. It's a whole grain chock-full of antinxidants and dietary fiber, it's naturally low in calories and it's gluten free. Air-popped popcorn contains just 20 calories per cup.

"Even with some butter, sugar or salt, popcorn is a great snack without sacrificing a regular routine of healthy eating and active living," said Amy Fischl, a registered dietitian. "Plus, popping is part of the fun!"

For a fun indulgence in moderation, here is a classic caramel corn recipe from JOLLY TIME Pop Corn that's sure to be a hit with guests at your next get-together. It's delicious and filling, perfect for nibbling during social occasions of all kinds, from birthday parties for the kids to just-for-the-fun-of-it, spontaneous weekend gatherings with the neighbors.

Family owned and operated for nearly 100 years, JOLLY TIME has a single-minded obsession: making the world's best popcorn. For five generations, the Smith family has been proud to produce the finest-quality popcorn available-no wonder the Smiths are considered by many to be the "First Family of Popcorn."

To learn more about healthy, satisfying snacking with popcorn and to access exclusive recipes and features, visit www.jollytime.com.

Smith Family Famous Baked Caramel Corn

24	cups popped JOLLY TIME(r) Pop Corn
	Nonstick cooking spray
1	cup butter or margarine
2	cups firmly packed brown sugar
1/2	cup light or dark corn syrup
1	tsp. salt
1/2	tsp. baking soda
1	tsp. vanilla

Coat bottom and sides of large roasting pan with nonstick cooking spray. Pop popcorn according to package directions. Open bag carefully and pour into roasting pan; discard unpopped kernels. In large, heavy saucepan, slowly melt butter; stir in brown sugar, corn syrup and salt. Heat to a boil, stirring constantly; boil without stirring 5 minutes. Remove from heat; stir in baking soda and vanilla. Carefully pour over popped popcorn, mixing well. Bake 1 hour at 250° F, stirring every 15 minutes. Remove from oven; cool completely. Break apart and store in tightly covered container. Makes 24 (1-cup) servings.

Prayer To The Blessed Virgin

(Never known to fail) Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh, Star of the Sea, help me and show me, herein you are my mother. Oh, Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth! I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my mother. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3x). Holy Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3x). Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal. You who gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me and that in all instances in my life you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in Eternal Glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine. The person must say this prayer 3 consecutive days. After 3 days, the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor is granted.

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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 39 | Number 15 | February 5, 2013

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

Hickory Hills adopts water rate increase option 3

by Jan Glaz

On January 24th at the Hickory Hills City Council meeting Aldermen voted to adopt option 3 in regards to the city's water and sewer rate increase. Three plans had been under discussion to absorb the full projected water sewer operating cost increase in 2013. Option 1: A water rate increase from $5.25 to $5.95 per 1,000 gallons or a 13% increase (no line increase)and increase sewer line charge from $3.30 to $4.00 per month or a 21% line charge increase (no rate increase): Option 2: A water line charge increase from $3.00 to $8.70 per month or a 290% increase (no rate increase) and increase the sewer rate from $1.00 to $1.15 per 1,000 gallons or a 15% increase (no line increase).

Option 3: as approved, is a water rate line charge increase from $3.00 to $3.90 per month and the water rate will increase from the current 5.25 to 5.90 per 1,000 gallons of water use. The sewer line charge will increase from $3.30 to $3.45 per month and there will be a residential water rate increase on sewer from $1.00 to $1.10 per 1,000 gallons of water use. The commercial sewer water rate will be on a two tier system: from 0 to 9,999 gallons of usage per month the rate will increase from $1.00 to $1.10 and for commercial for 10,000 gallons and over will go from $1.00 to $1.15 per 1,000 of gallons of use. Mayor Mike Howley stated that the increases stem from the City of Chicago's increase to Justice Willow from $2.88 per 1,000 gallons (.37 cents per 1,000) to $3.68 per 1,000 gallons of water a total increase of 14%.

Doing their fair share: before the meeting adjourned the city' council passed a PATSE Bus Service request from Palos Hills for financial support in the amount of $12,851.29. Each year the City of Palos Hills, City of Hickory Hills, Village of Bridgeview, Village of Palos Park, Village of Palos Heights, and Palos Township contribute their fair share of financial assistance to ensure that seniors and the disabled have transportation.

Oak Lawn officials debate the pros and cons of video gaming

by Matt Mayer

Officials discussed the pros and cons of the video gaming industry, which has recently become a popular topic of revenue in local municipalities. Governor Pat Quinn signed the Video Gaming Law Act into law back on July 13 2009, which legalizes video gaming and establishes a tax on the proceeds, a portion of which goes to the local municipality. An establishment must have a liquor license to have video gaming machines - a max of five terminals are allowed per establishment under the act.

Trustees Cynthia Trautsch, (D-1), said that we are now being inundated with bistros and cafes, that want to serve food and gamble. We not only have bars, we are also having restaurants requesting liquor licenses. "Do we cap them at a certain amount" said Trautsch.

Trustee Carol Quinlan (D-5) said that the income received from the gaming industry would benefit cash strapped Oak Lawn. She used the corner of 103rd and Central Avenue, which has empty storefronts as an example. "I have talked to residents that told me they would like to see something there rather than nothing," said Quinlan.

"The economic boost for the village would be worth considering. I estimate that Oak Lawn could receive an extra $500,000 annually from video gaming. However even with those advantages, I'm still concerned," said Quinlan.

Trustee Tom Phelan (D-6) said he thought that the village was giving licenses to existing businesses. Now we are getting all these requests. Trustee Bob Streit (D-3) said there has been 21 requests for liquor licenses just recently " It isn't a panacea but we as a board have to weigh each business case by case, such as how will it affect the neighborhood. Will it be a nuisance? What about parking," said Streit.

Business licensees and liquor licensees were approved for Penny's Place, 6346 W. 95th Street, and Bobush, 4911 W. 95th Street. Olejniczak said he had met with the owners of Bobush and they have no interest in video gaming. When asked, Village Attorney Paul O'Grady said that any business that receives a liquor license is eligible to have video gaming.

Mayor Dave Heilmann said perhaps and ordinance needs to be establishes specifically for video gaming to maintain control over the industry. "Oak Lawn already has an ordinance for liquor licenses," said Heilmann.

Justice offers business community, Meet and Greet

by Jan Glaz

Trustee Sue Small, introduced a motion on January 28th at the Village of Justice President and Board of Trustees Meeting to schedule and conduct a Meet and Greet with the Justice Business Community and to authorize an expenditure of $500 for food and beverages for the event. The board of trustees agreed to conduct the "Meet and Greet" on February 22nd at the William O. Lipinski Community Center. The Chamber of Commerce, the Village Board and economic development consultants will get together to discuss the 2030 Justice Vision Plan and to send appreciation to the Justice business owners in the community. "This is what it's all about," said Trustee Small.

On the business front, Trustee Ed Rusch brought to motion for approval a new business license for Sandy's Sandwiches, LLC doing business at 8350 S. Roberts Road, in Justice, contingent upon having passed all inspections and being in compliance with all codes and ordinances, the motion carried. Rusch also announced that it was the time of year to create a new vehicle tag for the upcoming year and to call on various schools in District 109 for the students to work on a theme of "Safe Schools-Safe Students". Rusch said the Village Clerk will be notifying the schools to let the children know the village will be asking for their art work.

End note - Trustee Kinga Bartoszek was pleased to announce very successful budget meetings with all of the departments and thanked everyone that had attended. Bartoszek disclosed she is waiting for a revised version of the budget and then a draft of the appropriation ordinance and stated that anyone who would like a copy of it, please stop by the finance office.

Oak Lawn Park District appoints Don Andersen

Donald Andersen

The Oak Lawn Park District would like to congratulate Commissioner and Board Secretary, Donald Andersen, on his appointment as the Chairman of the Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD) Board of Trustees.

Don has been a Commissioner of the Oak Lawn Park District since 1977 and has served six terms as President. He is one of the founding members of the Oak Lawn Parks Foundation, serving as Vice-chairman for the past eight years.

He also served as a Commissioner on the Planning and Development board for the Village of Oak Lawn for more than 30 years.

Currently he serves on the Ambassadors Program, Constitutional Bylaws, Executive, Honors and Resolutions, Membership, Nominating, and Program Committees, and Joint Coordinating Council.

The staff at the Oak Lawn Park District appreciates all the work Don does for the agency and for the parks and recreation field.

IAPD has been serving park districts, forest preserves, conservation and recreation agencies since 1928.

For more information, please contact 708-857-2225.

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 3 | February 5, 2013

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Oak Forest moves on $1.2 million opportunity

by Jan Glaz

The purchase of two Apartment Buildings close to the Oak Forest Metra Station, a 16-unit building at 15659 S. Lamon Avenue. $475,000 and a 24-unit building at 4820 W. 157th Street, $744,000. an amount of approximately $1.2 Million, met with approval at the Oak Forest City Council Meeting on January 22nd. Community Development Director. Adam Dotson. explained that the approval will play an important role in restoring investment interest in the Metra Station environment. He further stated that the purchase of the two California-style structures is an initial step towards improving Oak Forest's housing stock and reinvesting in the future of the residential and business community. Repositioning these properties will also strengthen surrounding property values. "We need to start now. we need to start taking some of this older housing stock and start looking for ways to bring in new housing stock." said Dotson. Alderman Simon confessed, "There are contracts I would have preferred over this. but these are the ones we can afford right now and it's a good start... I think the residents in Oak Forest can look forward to us doing more as time goes on." The funding of this purchase is possible through an existing TIF bond proceed for the Gateway Project.

Colleen Julian. Finance Director. offered supporting details regarding a resolution adopted by the council to authorize the extension of a $2 million dollar Line of Credit from MB Financial Bank before the meeting adjourned. The renewal addresses the needs of the city to meet its financial requirements during certain times of the year when the city has insufficient funds, such as when it is waiting for real estate tax distributions. The city only draws from the line of credit if necessary and repays the amounts as soon as possible. During the first year of the agreement the city borrowed $1.5 million. All funds were repaid by October 2012. Julian said. "We're renewing this again at 3% this is only the third year we've done it."

Tinley Park offers a hefty tax break to the Golden Corral

by Jan Glaz

The Tinley Park Finance committee on January 23 accepted a property tax program for the Golden Corral restaurant, a nationwide Franchise planning construction of a $3.5 million Market Value restaurant project in front of Menards at 6803 West 159th Street. The tax incentive opens the door to a hefty tax break. lowering annual property taxes over a ten year period from $213,000 to $92,396. The buffet and grill. all-you-can-eat family style restaurant. will employ over 100 people within an 11,088 square foot space. plus the new building will give a boost to an older shopping center in Tinley Park. Golden Corral expects to have approximately $4 million in taxable retail sales annually. The Tinley Park Village Board of Trustees is slated to bring the issue up for final vote at its February 5th Board of Trustees meeting.

Before the Village Board of Trustees Meeting adjourned on January 22nd. the board adopted a Class 8 reclassification with "Special Circumstances" for the property located 16846 South Oak Park Avenue for Siam Marina Restaurant. The business will be locating in the former Castos building and providing an Asian Fusion menu for patrons and employ 19 people. The owners have two other restaurants in Calumet City Illinois and Merrillville, Indiana, and have been in business for 17 years. Trustee Seaman provided details regarding the resolution. The class 8 Reclassification of the tax rate for this property will provide a significant 60% savings on commercial property taxes, from 25% to 10% for a ten year period. To be eligible for the Cook County incentive. the business owner will not be able to purchase this property for re-occupancy as a restaurant unless the property has been vacant 24 months. The County requires a Resolution from Tinley Park that supports the "Special Circumstances". The waiver of the 24 month abandonment duration has been supported and approved by the Village Board.

Orland water rates rise sewer and storm rates remain steady

by Jan Glaz

The Village of Orland Park will not raise the sewer and storm rates service charge. however, the Board of Trustees did agree to a hike in water rates on January 21st. The typical municipal water bill received by an Orland Park resident includes a fixed amount service charge, as well as rates per 1,000 gallons for water, sewer and storm services. The per 1,000 gallon rate for water is made up of the wholesale rate the City of Chicago charges for water, the rate the Village of Oak Lawn charges to deliver the water, and the Village of Orland Park's internal, or retail, rate. The village was notified that Chicago would be increasing water rates by 15% effective January 1. 2013. 2014 and 2015.

The increase is being charged to all municipalities and other agencies that purchase water from the City of Chicago. Oak Lawn will to continue to provide water service to the Southwest Customer Group (Mokena. New Lenox, Oak Forest. Orland Park and Tinley Park) for the year 2013. The Village's portion of the overall water rate charged to water customers will increase from $1.509 per 1,000 gallons to $1.554 per 1,000 gallons. an increase of $0.045 or approximately 3%. This increase is necessary to continue to adequately fund the operations and maintenance costs of the Village's water infrastructure. The Village's service charge. sewer and storm rates will not be increased. For an average customer. with monthly usage of 9,000 gallons, the revised rates will equate to an annual increase of approximately $64.26: $40.61 (63.2%) is attributable to the City of Chicago increase. $18.80 (29.24%) is attributable to the Village of Oak Lawn increase and $4.86 (7.56%) is attributable to the Village of Orland Park increase.

Noteworthy Approvals: Indra's Thai Restaurant petitioner. Chaiyut Puangkham. request was accepted for an amendment to an existing special use permit to operate a full service restaurant with patron seating in the County West Plaza shopping center. 15880 S. Wolf Road. The petitioner intends on remodeling the interior of the space and plans on offering dine-in. carry-out. and delivery options, although delivery will not be offered immediately. To avoid a dramatic price increase as the result of increased military and civilian purchases that goes into effect on February 6th: the city council agreed to purchase ammunition as soon as possible from Ray O'Herron Co. for 21 cases of Winchester 180 gr.. .40 caliber ammunition and 17 cases of Winchester 55 gr.. 5.56mm ammunition at a price not to exceed $9,933.00. The two largest purchases are for .40 caliber ammunition for pistols and 5.56 mm ammunition for patrol rifle carbines.

(From left to right) Oak Forest Public Relations Coordinator Chrissy Maher accepts a $1,763 marketing grant from Chicago Southland CVB President and CEO Jim Garrett. CDME. and Chicago Southland CVB Executive Vice President Sally Schlesinger, CPA, CDME.

City receives $1,763 local tourism grant to promote Oak Forest Fleadh

The City of Oak Forest recently received a $1,763 Local Tourism Marketing Grant from the Chicago Southland Convention & Visitors Bureau to promote the Oak Forest Fleadh on Saturday. March 9 on Cicero Avenue between 151st Street and 159th Street. The event. which celebrates Irish culture and tradition, includes a 5K run at 8:30 a.m.. an open bike ride from 10 to 11 a.m.. a family parade at 11 a.m.. and a pub and restaurant open house from 5 p.m. to 3 a.m.

The $1,763 grant will be used to create and place ads in Chicago magazine, Chicago Athlete magazine and Irish American News.

"We are looking forward to another successful event," said Oak Forest-Crestwood Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Kim Malecky-Iles. "The Fleadh is such a great way to showcase our town and celebrate our strong sense of community."

The Chicago Southland Convention & Visitors Bureau distributes up to $46,000 annually to Southland municipalities and not-for-profit organizations to promote events designed to draw visitors into the Chicago Southland region for overnight stays. These visitors contribute substantially to the Southland economy through stays in regional hotels. dining at local restaurants. shopping, recreational activities, and needed services travelers require. such as gas. oil and sundry items.

"The Local Tourism Grant program is a way for the Bureau to extend its marketing reach," said Jim Garrett, CDME. President and CEO of the Chicago Southland CVB. "The marketing efforts by our communities – in addition to marketing efforts by the Bureau – help us better promote the many festivals and events and area attractions throughout the Southland to potential visitors."

For more information about the Oak Forest Fleadh. please visit www.oak-forest.org. e-mail oakforestfleadh@oak-forest.org or call 708-687-4600.

Village View

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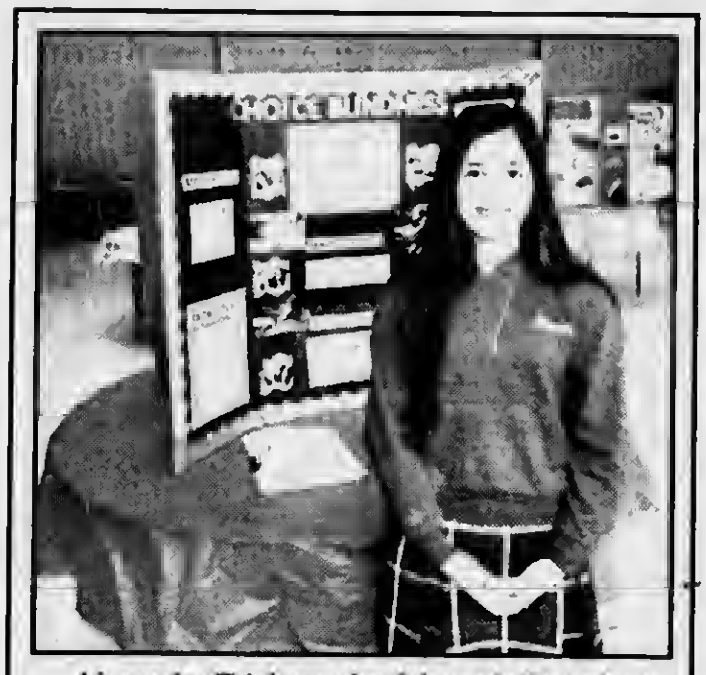
SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 14 | Number 3 | February 5, 2013

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights



Alexandra Tsiakopoulos 8th grade first place.

Koraes Elementary School participates in annual Science Fair competition

Students from Koraes Elementary School, affiliated with SS Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Palos Hills, participated in the school's annual science fair competition. Our Kindergarten through fourth grade presented class projects and the fifth through eighth grade students presented their projects for judging. Alexandra Tsiakopoulos 8th grade first place, Michelle Lenz 7th grade first place, Georgia Lattas 6th grade first place, Connie Krupa 5th grade first place.

Heights approves mayoral appointments to newly created Public Arts Commission

by Matt Mayer

Officials at the Jan 15 Palos Heights City Council meeting approved Mayor Robert Straz's appointments to the newly created Public Arts Commission as follows: Maria DeCaprio-Sunta, Lynda Schiappa, Robert Johnson, Judith Tukich, and Sandee Meek. A request to authorize Straz to prepare a contract awarding the annual bid for residential electric rates based upon the recommendations from the city's energy broker NIMEC was approved as well as a request to promote William Hayes from interim building inspector to building commissioner.

Other highlights: a request to pay KEE Construction LLC $50,347.98 along with a retention of $24,802.40 which will be held until the project is completed for work on the community park was approved as well as a the budget for the 2013 road program. A resolution No. R-02-13 establishing prevailing wage rates on public works projects was approved. A request for city attorney Tom Brown to draft an ordinance for a sign variation to a code section of the municipal code to allow Palos Christian Reform Church, 7059 W. 127th Street, to replace their existing monument sign with one which includes an electronic messaging center was also approved.

A resolution acknowledging the Chicago Southland Convention and Visitors Bureau as the city's convention and visitors bureau for marketing and promotion of tourism was approved as well as a request to close a portion of Route 83 Harlem Avenue west to Route 171 on Sunday May 1 for the First Midwest Half Marathon Race was approved. This is an annual tradition first started by the former Palos Community Bank. A request from Park Lawn School to hold their Annual Tag/Candy Day's fundraiser on March 29 and 30 and April 12 and 13 in the city was also approved.

A request from the Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana to conduct their annual Cookie Program sales and delivery during the months of January and February was approved. The St. Alexander School 6th Grade Girl Scouts are sponsoring their 2nd Annual Toy Drive to benefit Hope Children's Hospital until February 12. Donations of new toys can be dropped off at St. Alexander (save room), City Hall and the Recreation Center.

Palos Park expands Autumn in the Park

by Matt Mayer

Village Manager Rich Boehm addressed the village council at the January village council meeting regarding the expansion of the Autumn in the Park Festival. The expansion will include Friday night musical entertainment, food and spirits. Saturday will incorporate an amateur rib competition and sanctioned chili competition. There will also be activities and music for the entire family. Libido Funk Circus will perform again this year. The festival will begin on Friday, Sept. 20 at 7:00 p.m. and all day on Sept. 21, said Boehm.

At the previous council meeting, Boehm said that the City of Chicago is increasing water rates by 15 percent and the Village of Oak Lawn, which supplies water through their pumping station to several municipalities, is seeking a 10 percent increase. "Oak Lawn has tacked on some things that we are waiting for answers on. Oak Lawn hasn't fully explained the 10 percent increase", said Boehm.

Commissioner Dan Polk said residents who have access to well water could use that water for outdoor use rather than the city water.

Other highlights: The village council approved a one-year contract with Municipal Collections of America Inc for the collection of fines associated with the local adjudication process, which includes a 35 percent collection fee added onto the outstanding balance.

Upcoming events at The Chicago Ridge Public Library

"Build Your Resume" on Monday, February 11th at 6:30 p.m. Use the library's Career Cruising database to format a resume. Bring a current resume or a list of your work and educational experience with you. You need basic computer skills for this workshop. Call the library to register for this free class, limited to 8 participants.

Pub Trivia at Jack Desmonds Irish Pub on Wednesday, February 13th at 7:00 p.m. Join us for a night out playing "pub trivia" with a Valentine's Day twist. Jack Desmond's is located at 10339 Ridgeland Avenue. Must to 21+ to attend.

"Project Linus: Make a Blanket Day" on Saturday, February, 16th from 9:30 a.m. – 12: 30 p.m. Warm up your winter by making fleece blankets for Project Linus, an organization that provides a sense of security and comfort to seriously ill children through the gift of a handmade blanket. Simply bring in at least 1 ½ yards of fleece and a pair of scissors. No sewing is involved. Join the fun!

"Searching and Applying for Jobs Online" on Monday, February, 18th at 6:30 p.m. Conduct a better job search by learning about valuable job hunting tools you can use at the library or online anywhere. You need basic computer skills for this workshop. Call the library to register for this free class, limited to 8 participants.

The Chicago Ridge Public Library is located at 10400 S. Oxford. Call the library at 708-423-7753 with any questions.

Things to do at Worth Park District

Senior Gala

Join the Park District as we celebrate Valentine's Day in our own special way. We will enjoy a delicious lunch, refreshments, play bingo, have a raffle, giveaways and enjoy light music. Wednesday, February 6 from 12-2pm located at the Terrace Centre. Fee R/NR: $10/$15.

Feature Display

Worth's Political Past. The museum will feature several of Worth's old political organizations like the Worth Homeowners Association, the Action Party and others that have helped or hindered progress in town. Come and learn about Worth's political past in a pictorial display from 15 through April 15.

For more information, please call the Worth Park District at (708) 448-7080 or visit www.worthparkdistrict.org

Worth Park District is located at 11500 S. Beloit (3 Blocks West of Harlem on 115th Street).

Village View

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B-MAC EDITION

Volume 7 | Number 3 | February 5, 2013

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Alsip forgoes $1,000,000 line of credit

by Jan Glaz

An approval to renew the issuance of a promissory note and the establishment of a line of credit in the amount of $1,000,000.00 was lifted from the consent agenda on January 21st at the Village of Alsip Board Meeting. In regards to the issue of removal Mayor Patrick Kitching stated. "Trustees as you know when the national economy went bad we started doing this to protect ourselves because we didn't want to be in a situation where we didn't have enough cash on hand. The county was not and they are still not paying our taxes on time and the state; you can't count on them at all. We are long past that now, we never touched it... it never cost us anything but It was always a major issue for the Finance Department to do all the paper work and really it is not necessary anymore."

Mayor Kitching asked Trustee Quinn for a report on Alsip's Boat Launch. Quinn answered that two requests were up for approval: An Ordinance approving an Easement Extension Agreement between the Village of Alsip and the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago and approval of an Ordinance approving a Lease Amendment Agreement between Alsip and the Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago. Both were adopted by the council.

Other news before the meeting adjourned: an ordinance passed that authorizes the sale of personal property owned by the village - two (2) Ford Crown Victoria Police vehicles, and an item for future consideration, an application for a change of zoning from B1 to B3 for property a 11541 S. Pulaski Road, to allow for a restaurant to include video gambling and the sale of alcoholic beverages.

Crestwood begins yearly inspections of condos and businesses

by Jan Glaz

At the January 17th Village of Crestwood Board of Trustees Meeting Trustee Hirsch announced that the yearly inspections of Crestwood Condominiums has started and he stated all condos on Kilpatrick, Willow, Dori, Char, Leonard and Walter have been completed and that Fire Marshall McAuliffe has also done 4 Plan Reviews consisting of 3 new businesses and 1 for an existing business (Providence Health Care). Hirsch further stated that at the start of the New Year the village also begins checking Knox boxes at all businesses. These boxes hold keys that enable the fire department to enter the buildings without causing damage and thus far 10 have been done for the year. "Personnel have done about a dozen company inspections", said Hirsch. "Company inspections are different from the condo inspection... they are looking for good housekeeping, no apparent hazards, means of egress, and expired extinguishers."

Trustee Hirsch also reported that Deputy Chief D. Owen is looking to purchase with village permission an Internet Based Program for handling scheduling. The software would shorten the time spent on preparing the schedule as it takes 12-15 hours to complete. By cutting the time by 2/3 it would allow time to be centered on policies and other important issues. Cost would be approximately between $3000 and $3600 annually.

Unanimously adopted before the meeting adjourned: A Special Use Ordinance for Gratur Insurance Agency, Inc. to permit an insurance company as this is not specifically provided for in the commercial zoning district, to be located at 14150 S. Cicero; a Special Use Ordinance for Skyline RV Group, LLC, to permit the sale of used recreation vehicles and motor homes (no storage outside of premises), to be located at 4325 West 136th Court; a Special Use Ordinance for Peak Sales Remarketing to permit used car sales and internet sales with the stipulation that there are no auto repairs, body work or auto painting, to be located at 14112 S. Pulaski Avenue; a Special Use Ordinance for Fred Loya Insurance Agency, Inc. d/b/a/ Loya Insurance to permit sales and marketing of automobile insurance as this is not specifically provided for in the commercial zoning district, to be located at 13215 S. Cicero Avenue.

Veterans Memorial Middle School student buzzes to victory in District 130 Spelling Bee

Sixty seventh and eighth graders descended on the Veterans Memorial Middle School campus in Blue Island to take part in the annual Cook County School District 130 Spelling Bee. Qualifying finalists from the three individual building spelling bee competitions took part in this challenging event and battled it out to determine the finalist who will compete in the South Cook ISC Scripps Spelling Bee in February. The students' expert spelling skills were put to the test in front of parents, staff, administrators, school board members and peers. District 130 students knew their way around the English language, and seventh grader Viviana Salas from Veterans Memorial Middle School in Blue Island was declured the overall winner by spelling the word "predicate" correctly.

Champion Viviana Salas proudly displays her trophy.

The purpose of Spelling Bee competitions is to help students improve their spelling, increase vocabulary use, learn language concepts, develop correct English usage and to promote academic excellence. Each student's hard work and dedication, along with the work of their teachers, was reflected throughout the Spelling Bee.

Judges for the event were Deborah Beasley, youth services manager at the Blue Island Public Library; Joyce Eddy, retired District 130 literacy coach, teacher and principal; and Lourdes Ibarra, retired District 130 teacher. Media specialists Lynn Van Heel, Leilani Shute and Peggy Buckley coordinated the individual school spelling bees and assisted at the district event.

Airport Cycle Sales Selects Midlothian

by Jan Glaz

Chicago based business, The Zone Honda Kawasaki, Airport Cycle Sales, Inc., moved one step closer to opening in Midlothian on January 23rd. The Board of Trustees passed two resolutions authorizing redevelopment agreements: An agreement with the Razik Family, owners of the Family Pride Property (Chicago Title Land Trust No. 875), and with Airport Cycle Sales, Inc., owner Martin Pavilonis. Airport Cycles was established in 1999 and incorporated in Illinois, it currently does about $3 million a year in business. The corporation is looking to expand in Midlothian, as Airport Cycle's Chicago lease expires in March 2013. It estimates, after the move, to be doing approximately $10 million a year in sales in Midlothian. Over the second 5 years of the village aiding Airport Cycles with a tax rebate program the village expects to earn $50,000 a year. Mayor Terry Stephens thanked Village Administrator James Lang as his efforts played an important role connecting both parties leading to the agreements and to Airport Cycles decision to choose Midlothian over any of the surrounding municipalities. "Particularly Oak Forest was courting his business." said Stephens. A lease should be signed between the two parties within a couple of weeks. Due to the rarity of motorcycle businesses, the Mayor anticipates a steady flow of traffic coming from a wide spread area to shop Midlothian.

Village Administrator James Lang also received a thank you from the village board for his efforts regarding the Redevelopment Plan & Program for the Proposed 147th & Cicero Corridor Redevelopment Project Area, after the council adopted an Ordinance Authorizing the purchase of the Chrysler Real Estate on 147th and Cicero in the amount of $950,000. Mayor Stephens announced that this property is also being marketed to the general public for a price of $4.3 million and the village is acquiring it for $950,000. Midlothian will be able to use a portion of the property for retail space and more tax dollars. Also, a water tower can be erected on the site and the village will still have property left to turn over to other developers. "We will be able to reimburse ourselves for the cost of the purchase and the water tower and even come out uhead." said the Mayor.

Justice recognizes Janet Cervantes

by Jan Glaz

The Village of Justice recognized resident Janet Cervantes at the President and Board of Trustees Meeting held on January 14th. Janet, appointed by Village President Kris Wasowicz to a voluntary position, coordinates special projects and events including but not limited to: Food pantry, holiday food basket, toy drive, and other hospitality gatherings. Upon receiving praise and applause Janet expressed her thanks to the council for their continued support and for their appreciation and recognition of her efforts. Trustee Sue Small inquired about the results over the past holiday and Janet disclosed that the amount from holiday baskets was substantial, $8,000.00. Students from two schools contributed to the approximately 82 needy families in various ways, wrapping the donated gifts and, new this year, creating Christmas cards, enough cards that sometimes two were given to a family. Janet also mentioned that a good portion of the families they provide for are seniors, many single... "A lot of them don't receive a lot of recognition or Christmas cards." Trustee Rich Sparr added, "It's a very nice touch for Christmas." Trustee Ed Rusch complimented the Justice Junior High Students and seventh and eighth graders who together brought in 1,580 items.

End notes: The Board of Trustees agreed to the purchase and placement of No Parking signs on 86th Avenue designating 86th Avenue from 71st Street to Archer Avenue as "No Parking from 7:00 a.m. until 9:00 a.m. and from 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. on weekdays". Trustee Melanie Kuban related that the village is erecting additional no parking signs on the streets due to people picking up their children and parking on both sides of the street and since there are no sidewalks, children have to walk in the street. There have been several close calls and problems when police try to move the vehicles. Kuban stated that the signs will alleviate the problem and make the streets much safer for children. Before the meeting adjourned, Trustee Rich Sparr announced that there is a 30% rise in the sales of homes in the Village of Justice; he also reported the number of permits as 738.

Tax bills allow homeowners to track government spending

Property owners can now see the financial state of their various local governments that tax them right on their property tax bill. Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas announced recently.

On each individual tax bill homeowners will find how much their local governments are in debt, where their taxes are going, how much their local governments spend, and pension obligations both funded and unfunded.

Pappas also noted that First Installment tax bills for tax year 2012 (payable in 2013) will be due March 1. Pappas encourages paying online at cookcountytreasurer.com. Property owners can also pay at more than 400 Chase Bank locations in Chicagoland and at some 200 participating community banks.

Reserve your space for our
St. Patrick's Day and St. Joesph Day
issue!
Call Linda 708-425-1910

Rep. Lipinski votes for No Budget, No Pay Act

"I voted in support of HR 325, No Budget, No Pay Act. I am one of the representatives who has been a co-sponsor of Rep. Jim Cooper's similar legislation (HR 310) because I believe that if you don't do your job, you shnuld not get paid.

"The bill also would extend the debt ceiling to May 19, so we can continue to meet the obligations of the federal government. While this applies another Band-Aid to our larger budget and debt problems, we still face a March 1 deadline regarding the sequestration budget cuts and an April 1 deadline when the current funding bill for the federal gnvernment runs out. I am hopeful that these deadlines will finally force Congress and the President to tackle our debt problem. No more excuses. We have ample opportunity to engage in a serious discussion that brings about meaningful tax reform and strengthens entitlements while finally arriving at a long-term solution to the country's skyrocketing debt. I have been a leading proponent of reaching a bipartisan agreement along the lines of the Simpson-Bowles deficit reduction commission recommendations. Continuing to put this off creates a serious threat to our economy and American jobs."

Moraine Valley Spring Job and Internship Fair

Employers from all industries who have position openings are needed for Moraine Valley Community College's Spring Job and Internship Fair on Thursday, March 28, from 2 to 5 p.m. The fair will be in the Moraine Business and Conference Center, Building M, on campus, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills. Employer check-in is at noon, and the employer luncheon is at 12:30 p.m.

The Spring Job and Internship Fair is a prime opportunity for employers to recruit students, graduates and community members to fulfill employment needs, including hourly or salary jobs and paid or non-paid internships. Commission-only positions and undisclosed third-party recruiting will not be included.

The registration fee is $100 for a six-foot table and lunch for two recruiters. Registration forms are due by March 8, and can be downloaded from the college's website at morainevalley.edu/jrc. Space is limited.

For more information about the fair or other events, call the Job Resource Center at (708) 974-5313, or visit the website.

New tornado siren system

The Village of Oak Lawn has recently purchased a new tornado warning system to replace the current system which is twenty five years old. The new system is set to be installed during the weeks of February 11th through 22nd. The new system will have better sound coverage as well as voice capabilities to relay warning messages in four languages (English, Spanish, Polish and Arabic).

While the new system is being installed, you may hear the test message being played. This test message will include the siren test tones and the voice messages. You may hear the sirens between the hours of 9am to 5pm, Monday through Friday. Every effort will be made to keep daily interruption to a minimum. These tests are necessary to insure the new system is working properly. Once installation and testing are complete, we will advise all resident when the new system is active.

This new system will help Oak Lawn be better prepared for tornadoes and other emergency events and is designed to give you and your family the best advance warning possible. We appreciate your patience with this installation.

Sirens will be installed at the below locations and Contractors and Oak Lawn Public Work vehicles and employees will be in these areas:

5500 W. 111th Street & Frontage Road

102nd Street & Major Avenue

103rd Street & Kostner Avenue (Behind Fire House)

93rd Place & South Keeler Avenue

6451 West 93rd Place (Behind Fire House)

91st Street & 52nd Avenue (Covington School)

Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce to host State of the Village address with Dave Heilmann

The Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce will host its third annual "State of the Village" address on Tuesday, February 12th, at our February luncheon held at the Hilton Oak Lawn (9333 S. Cicero Ave.). The Chamber will welcome special guest speaker, Village President, Dave Heilmann, who will address issues such as the Village infrastructure, taxes, and short-term and long-term plans.

Registration and networking begin at 11:30 a.m., lunch at noon, followed by the State of the Village presentation at 12:15 p.m. Come out and join us. This event is open to members, business owners, residents and anyone interested in hearing about Oak Lawn. This is a good opportunity for networking and meeting other businesses in and around Oak Lawn. Please contact the Chamber office at (708) 424-8300 or email office@oaklawnchamber.com to reserve your spot.

Founded in 1946, today the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce consists of more than 300 members. The Chamber of Commerce works to represent and advance the Oak Lawn business community, striving with constant integrity, fairness and cooperation to promote and improve the economic atmosphere, business climate and image of Oak Lawn.

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We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

Clarion Gives Oak Lawn writer five stars

The highly-regarded Clarion Book Review gave five stars to The Founders' Plot, a political thriller by Oak Lawn author Frank M. Victoria. "This is very rare," said Clarion spokesperson Jennifer Sztuko. "Only a small percentage of our reviews get five stars."

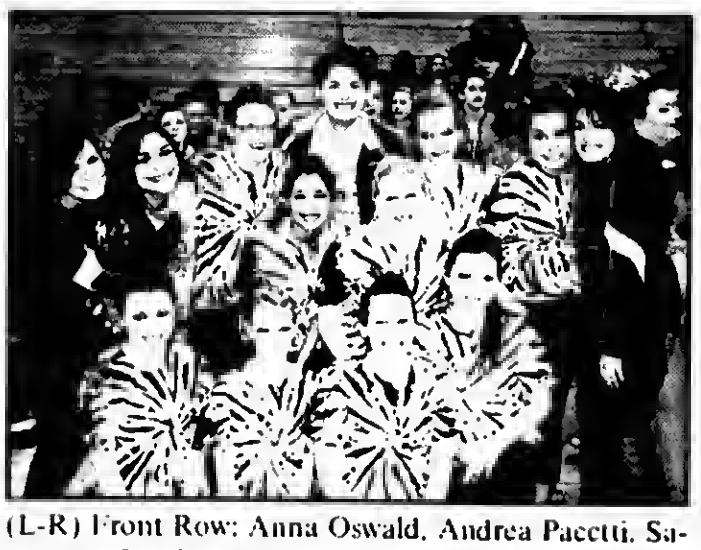
The review said. "The Founders' Plot "will grip the hearts and minds of readers as they are swept into a tale of political maneuvering by Frank Victoria's masterful storytelling ... an intriguing and rich novel. The characters, dialogue and plot will entertain readers, and the constant twists and surprising conclusion will keep them guessing until the end."

Kirkus Reviews, another independent reviewer known to be tough in evaluating novels, also gave a highly favorable assessment of the novel, stating that "For readers on the hunt for a fictional account of a contemporary political dispute, this is a competent if not inspiring option."

The Founders' Plot focuses on illegal immigration, constitutional interpretation and government intrigue. A newly-elected governor of California pushes through a tough immigration law that's declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court, but he refuses to accept the ruling and continues enforcing the law. This ignites a clash between federal, state, and judicial power that threatens to jar the country's political and justice systems.

A savvy member of the opposition party combats the governor and will go to any length to force the governor to obey the Court decision, and her devious maneuvers throw his personal and professional life into turmoil. Meanwhile, tragedy befalls two Mexican families, in the country illegally, as they grapple with the hypertensive environment created by the law.

The book is available on-line at Amazon, Barnes & Noble and Atlas Books as well as bookstores nationally.



(L-R) Front Row: Anna Oswald, Andrea Paecttl, Samantha Cholke, Amanda Leone
Back Row: Coach Ryan Brandt, Chelsy Zamora, Hannah Papaleo, Guadalupe Navarrete, Choreographer Jeff Orluck, Rebecca Mackowiak, Patrycja Kucharska, Olivia Dankowski, Coach Jessica Shekleton

Young dance team defies odds and advances to State Finals

After three years of just barely missing the cut, this year's Dance Team took the next step and advanced to the Illinois High School Association State Finals for Competitive Dance. The team heads off to Bloomington-Normal, IL this weekend to compete after a beautiful performance at sectionals last weekend.

This team of only 10 girls will compete against the state's top 30 teams in their division. What makes this feat even more impressive is that the group doesn't have one senior and half of them are freshmen or sophomores.

"We are absolutely thrilled that the girls qualified," head coach Jessica Shekleton said. "Not only did they qualify, but they surpassed many of our local competitors. Oak Lawn has made a mark in the IHSA dance world this season. This is a phenomenal achievement!"

The Spartans have certainly had a great run with a fourth-place finish in conference, a sixth-place finish at sectionals and another sixth-place finish at an invitational. The dancers are Rebecca Mackowiak, Hannah Papaleo, Amanda Leone, Samantha Cholke, Andrea Pacetti, Olivia Dankowski, Anna Oswald, Patrycja Kucharska, Chelsy Zamora, and Guadalupe Navarrete.

The OLCHS community wishes them congratulations and good luck.

Two District 135 Schools make Illinois Honor Roll

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) and Northern Illinois University (NIU) announced two schools from District 135 made the Illinois Honor Roll for their continued academic progress or excellence. Of the 454 schools that made the list, Centennial and Prairie Schools of Orland School District 135 were two that received Academic Excellence Awards.

Centennial School had made AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) in 2011 and 2012 with 99% of Centennial students meeting or exceeding ISAT (Illinois Standards achievement Test) state standards. Prairie School also made AYP for both 2011 and 2012 with 97% of their students meeting or exceeding ISAT standards.

District 135 Director of Curriculum Dr. Paul Howell said. "The success of our schools is based upon the efforts of our staff, parent and community involvement, assessment review and providing a positive and supportive learning environment."

Northern Illinois University works with ISBE to establish criteria identify winners of the awards and administer the Illinois Honor Roll. The Academic Excellence criteria require that 90% of elementary students meet or exceed standards on state tests. Furthermore, these schools must demonstrate excellence for at least consecutive three years.

Each award has unique criteria that best reflect the diverse circumstances of Illinois schools. The 2012 Honor Roll roster includes elementary, middle and high schools, including charter schools, and represents 293 public school districts statewide.

Join us to celebrate the Heart of Women on February 24th

On Sunday, February 24th at 9am, we will celebrate the wonderful hearts of women with a special liturgy, breakfast brunch, and presentation at the Oak Lawn Hilton. Through spiritual reflection and education, we will celebrate your health in the New Year.

You will be refreshed and encouraged during this very special Little Company of Mary Signature Event that is designed specifically for women. Internal Medicine specialist at Little Company of Mary Hospital, Dr. Richard Farrell, presents "The Culture of a Well Woman."

This morning package includes the breakfast brunch, presentation and special gift. Wear your favorite red outfit and join the fun! Don't miss this morning that's just for women. Enrollment is limited and registration deadline is February 10, 2013.

On Sunday, February 24, 2013 at Oak Lawn Hilton, 9333 S. Cicero Ave., Oak Lawn, from 9am to Noon.

Cost $40, includes a breakfast brunch, presentation and gift. Please RSVPby calling 708-424-9988.

Our Women's Services for Life and Health are dedicated to caring for the whole woman. We are there for women, every step of the way. With minimally invasive technology, a team of passionate experts and a focus on better communication and convenient access. Little Company of Mary is always looking for new ways of providing care with fewer hassles and less discomfort. Please visit MyHealthMyJourney.com for more information.

SXU to host 2013 Spring Job Fair

Saint Xavier University's Office of Career Services invites the community to meet with employers at the 2013 Spring Job Fair on Wed., Feb 13. The Job Fair is scheduled from noon to 3 p.m. in the Shannon Center, located at the University's Chicago campus, 3700 W. 103rd St. This fair is free and open to the public. About 20 employers are expected to attend the fair and recruit for f

ull-time, part-time, and internship positions in various industries. Attendees are advised to dress professionally and bring plenty of copies of their resumes.

Companies scheduled to attend include: Chicago Education Project, Citizen Schools, Elim Christian Special Education School/ Services, Enterprise Holdings, Echo Joint Agreement, Hoopise Financial Group, Indian Oaks Academy, Ingalls Memorial Hospital, Moraine Valley Community College, Northwestern Mutual, Palos Community Hospital, Prudential, Rush University Medical Group, Standard Bank and Trust Co., TCF Bank, The Menta Group, Tinley Park Police Department, and the U.S. Army Healthcare.

A full list of employers is available at www.sxu.edu, keyword: job fair. The list of employers attending the fair will be updated on a weekly basis, so be sure to check often! For more information, please contact the Office of Career Services at (773)298-3131.

We're Banding Together for "Big Bill" Jerozal

Saturday, Feb. 9, from 2 to 7pm
115 Bourbon Street
3359 W. 115th St. in Merrionette Park

Join us for live music by Funhouse,
a generous buffet of delicious foods and
beer, wine and soft drinks
$30 per person (benefit tickets sold only at the door)

Friends and Chicago's Finest rally to celebrate life of retired Chicago Police Officer 'Big Bill' Jerozal Benefit bash

Friends and fellow Chicago Police officers will celebrate the life of "Big Bill" Jerozal. who is losing his battle with cancer since a recent diagnosis confirmed stage four esophageal and liver cancers. Tickets to the fund-raising event are $30 per person and will be sold only on the day of the gathering from 2 until 7 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 9 at 115 Bourbon Street, the popular entertainment complex located at 3359 W. 115th St. in Merrionette Park, Ill.

The evening features entertainment by the cover group Funhouse. The ticket price also includes a generous buffet of delicious food, beer, wine and soft drinks, as well as homemade desserts. There also will be a silent auction and raffle tickets for prizes provided by area merchants, restaurants and professional service companies.

Bill Jerozal, who lives with his family near Midway Airport. served as a Chicago Police officer for more than 33 years.

"Our father has fought valiantly since the onset of his cancers," says his daughter Paulette Kowaleski, a resident of Frankfort. "Just recently, many police officers who have served with him over the years reached out to call and visit with him. They talk about his favorite police beat at the 12th Street Beach. Dad always regarded his duty as a 'walk on the beach' because he saw how people appreciated the safety the Chicago Police Department provides"

To donate to the "Banding Together for Big Bill" fund, please send contributions to Archer Bank, 3435 W. 111th St., Chicago 60655.

For more information about the benefit, please email pkovo@yahoo.com.

Oak Lawn Library announcements

"Coffee And..." Recipe Tasting

Registration fur a "Coffee And..." recipe tasting hosted by the Oak Lawn Public Library. 9427 S. Raymond Avenue, is currently underway.

Join Chef Kate Bradley on Thursday, Feb. 21 for a review of recipes for mint chocolate shortbread, cappuccino muffins, no-guilt spice cake and loaded oatmeal cookies.

Advance registration and payment of a $5 fee are required. Food samples will be provided. Sign up at the library's Reception Booth. Limit 60 participants.

Drums Around the World

"Drums Around the World" - a free Sunday family program for children of all ages - on Sunday, Feb. 10 from 3-4 p.m. in the lower level meeting rooms. Joseph Arteaga and Friends present this interactive music presentation featuring percussion instruments and rhythms from around the globe -- an entertaining and informative show.

Oak Lawn Community Library Foundation presents "Movie and Dessert" Fundraiser

The Oak Lawn Community Library Foundation will hold a "Movie and Dessert" fundraiser on Thursday, Feb. 14 at the Oak Lawn Public Library. The Valentine's Day event includes a screening of the romantic, indulging drama "Chocolat" and scrumptious sweets provided by local area bakeries and restaurants.

The film starts at 6 p.m. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. "Movie and Dessert" will be held in the lower level meeting rooms.

Tickets are $25 per person. Register and pay (cash or check) by Sunday, Feb. 10 at the library's first-floor Reception Booth. Tickets will not be sold the day of the event.

In "Chocolat" a woman and her daughter open a chocolate shop in a small French village that shakes up the rigid morality of the community. Starring Juliette Binoche, Judi Dench, Johnny Depp and Alfred Molina. Rated: PG-13. Running time: 121 min. 2000.

Proceeds from the fundraiser benefit the Oak Lawn Community Library Foundation, a non-profit organization governed by volunteer community members. The Foundation was started in 1993 to seek private sector support for maintaining the excellence of materials and services offered by the Oak Lawn Public Library.

Sunday with Friends Concert at the Oak Lawn Public Library. Petra's Sweet Six (Jazz)

The Oak Lawn Public Library. 9427 S. Raymond Avenue. will host a free jazz concert featuring "Petra's Sweet Six" on Sunday, Feb. 17 from 2-3 p.m. Chicago jazz vocalist Petra Van Nuis teams up with five of Chicago's finest musicians to play the tight two-horn arrangements of Joe Policastro. The group's songs conjure up a sound reminiscent of jazz vocal recordings of the 1950's, full of distinct flavor and feeling. Sponsored by the Friends of the Oak Lawn Library. No advance registration required.

Free Family Movie: "Academy Awards Shorts"

The Oak Lawn Public Library, 9427 S. Raymond Avenue, will host a free family movie screening of "Academy Awards Shorts" on Monday, Feb. 18 at 2 p.m. An assortment of Oscar-nominated and winning short animated films starring Superman, Bugs Bunny and more. 90 min.

For more information, visit www.oaklawnlibrary.org or call (708) 422-4990.

The Oak Lawn Public Library is located at. 9427 S. Raymond Avenue.

Morton's not only the Steakhouse

by Annette Dixon

Newly remodeled Morton's on 65 East Wacker Place will delight you with their new menu items, bar seating area, board room and wine room. Their banquet room upstairs will seat 130 people for your next party.

Jeffrey Pagnotta, General Manager introduced me to the upstairs kitchen with its own chef and sous-chef. He stated that the Lobster Bisque Soup is a real favorite of the regular diners. Jeff also pointed out that their new lunch menu will feature more vegetables and salads which the ladies will enjoy with their Starters. As Jeff and I spoke. I found out that he was from Palos Heights. It's wonderful to know that our southsiders do manage well. Also they hold onto their congenial personality that puts people at ease.

If you are having a special event, try Morton's you won't be disappointed with their extensive lunch menu. They open for lunch and dinner and of course it is one of Chicago's finest restaurants and favorite steakhouse.

Morton's "The Steakhouse" is still located at 65 East Wacker Place. Chicago. You may call for reservations at 312-201-0410 or go onto the web at mortons.com

District 130 to conduct preschool screenings

Cook County School District 130 will be conducting Preschool Screenings during the week of February 18 for the purpose of identifying children who may be eligible for enrollment in the 2013-2014 Pre-kindergarten or Early Childhood Programs. Children must be residents of District 130 to participate in screenings. Children will be screened in the areas of language, motor, social, self-help, problem solving skills, and vision and hearing.

Screenings will take place at Horace Mann School, located at 2975 W. Broadway in Blue Island. Appointments are required and can be scheduled by calling Judy Giron or Diane Saxon-Carter at 708-489-7446. Parents will be required to show three current proofs of residency and a copy of their child's birth certificate. Placement priority will be given to students entering Kindergarten in August 2014.

Medial Clinics,
Doctors, Dentists,
Spa's, Massage,
Pain Centers, Hospitals,
advertise in our
Senior and Health
issue.
Call Linda at
708-425-1910 or view
www.vvnew.com.

Capri
Cocktails & Banquet Room ~ Catering for the Holidays
Take your Sweetheart to Capri!
Ristorante Italiano
12307 S. Harlem Avenue • Palos Heights, IL
708-671-1657
Hours: Monday 4pm-10pm, Tuesday-Thursday 11am-2pm 4pm-10pm
Friday 11am-2pm 4pm-11pm, Saturday 4pm-11pm, Sunday 3pm-9pm

Rosangela's
Pizza Restaurant
Since 1955
2807 W. 95 Street • Evergreen Park, IL
708-422-2041
Happy Valentine's Day!
Hours:
Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 11 am - 10 pm
Friday & Saturday 11 am - 11 pm
Sunday 1 pm - 10 pm • Closed Tuesday
Dine In • Carry Out • Delivery • Catering

Evergreen Park Elementary School District 124 kindergarten registration

Kindergarten Registration will take place at Central Junior High School, 9400 South Sawyer, in the Multi-Purpose Room (door 5E) from 1:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. on February 26, 27, and 28, 2013. Any families requiring an interpreter can contact Maria Albarrán at 708-423-0950, ext. 2503 after March 1, 2013 for an appointment.

If you are unable to register on the days listed above, you may register your child beginning March 1, 2013 at the Administrative Office, 9400 South Sawyer, between the hours of 8:00 - 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 - 2:30 p.m. Please call Mary MacDonald at 708-423-0950 ext. 2145 to set up an appointment.

To help expedite the registration process, a registration packet, including medical forms, is available at each elementary school beginning February 4th, 2013. Please bring this packet back with you when registering. Upon registration you will also need: an original birth certificate, your child's social security number, a current Homeowner's Insurance Policy/Mortgage papers or original signed and dated Apartment Lease, listing all tenants, with proof of last months payment/Certificate of Inspection from the Village, landlord information, current Illinois photo ID (i.e. Illinois drivers license, Illinois state ID), and two (2) current additional items of identification demonstrating proof of residency showing the residents address (i.e. automobile insurance policy, voter registration, utility bills, pay check stub or statements.) If the area code on the home and/or cell phone number does not match the Evergreen Park 708 area code, the phone bill must be provided showing the Evergreen Park residents' address.

The District 124 Board of Education encourages parents to register their children as early as possible to help the District better plan for the 2013-2014 school year.

If you have any questions, please call Mary MacDonald at 708-423-0950 ext. 2145.

Staff and commissioners from the Tinley Park-Park District accept their award at the annual IPRA Conference. Image courtesy NeriPhoto.com.

Tinley Park-Park District awarded State Accreditation

The Illinois Association of Park Districts and the Illinois Park and Recreation Association recognized the Tinley Park-Park District as an Illinois Distinguished Accredited Agency for 2013-2018 at their annual conference. This is the highest accreditation achievement possible for a park district. The accreditation is reserved for those agencies reflecting exemplary achievements in overall park district management.

The state of Illinois is very proud of its distinguished accreditation program, which is one of the most rigorous and respected accreditation and certification processes an agency can undergo. The Tinley Park-Park District started the process 18 months ago with a self-evaluation program, and culminated in November 2012 with a five-person review board, who spent an entire day at the park district evaluating facilities, reviewing records and documenting the agency's information for accuracy. The park district's scores exceeded the required scores in all categories for passing the standards review.

The successful outcome of the evaluation process requires an agency to meet benchmarks in a number of operational categories that include: legal compliance, general management practices, finance and business operations, facilities and parks, board management and procedures, personnel, and recreation services.

Park Board President Brian H. Younker reflected on the accomplishment by saying, "I am very proud of staff and fellow commissioners for working together to provide the best service possible for our residents and achieving the Distinguished Accreditation Award."

The award was recently presented at the Illinois Park and Recreation State Conference in front of 1,600 attendees at the awards luncheon. Only 32 park districts out of more than 400 in the state of Illinois have achieved the Distinguished Accreditation Award. The award is good for five years at which time an agency must reapply at the end of that period to be recognized again. Successfully attaining Distinguished Accreditation status demonstrates that an agency is among the leaders in the state of Illinois in bringing top-quality services to its residents.

"The Tinley Park-Park District Board of Commissioners and staff are very proud of this achievement," said John Curran, Director of Parks and Recreation for the Tinley Park-Park District. "The accreditation acknowledges our staff's professionalism and the district's efficient and effective use of financial resources and our continued focus on customer service to provide innovative and diverse recreational opportunities, and outstanding parks and facilities."

Arts and Benefit Auction in Blue Island

Blue Heart Workshop & Reception

Create your own 'Blue Heart,' view the Blue Heart Community Art Show (more than 30 artists), sip coffee and eat donuts with artists and friends. Some art supplies will be provided, feel free to bring your own! 'Blue Heart' is about doing something, being creative, and thinking about your home.

On Saturday, February 16, 2013 at 1pm - 3 p.m., at Blue Island School of Music, 2408 Union St. , Blue Island, IL.

BAC Benefit Auction

A circus-theme for this 42nd annual event features a professional live auction offering an outstanding array of unique experience packages and items, as well as bidding on silent items and an evening of entertainment, food, cash bar, and socializing.

Sat., Feb. 9, 2013 at 6 p.m., for $50. Beverly Arts Center, 2407 W. 111th St., Chicago. 773-445-3838 for more details.

Iron Sharpens Iron Men's Conference

Attention men 13 years and older! On February 23, Orland Park Church, located at 7500 W. Sycamore Dr., is hosting the 2013 Iron Sharpens Iron national men's equipping conference from 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Sixteen different seminars will be offered at this one-day conference – something for everyone! Visit www.orlandchurch.com for more info or call (708) 532-4900.

The Joy of a Healthy Mouth

Palos Township will present a preventative oral health program for people 60 years of age and older called "The Joy of a Healthy Mouth" on February 12 from 9am until !! am at the Township building at 10802 S. Roberts Road, Call 708- 598-2441 to reserve a seat for the program.

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Corn Beef and Cabbage
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and Vegetable

FREEze Day at Brookfield Zoo

Sunday, February 24 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Free Admission Day! Enjoy the outdoors, and the indoors. at Brookfield Zoo's FREEze Day! Cook County Commissioner Joan Patricia Murphy would like to encourage families to take advantage of the FREE admission day at Brookfield Zoo. Come enjoy a wintery fun filled day. see the animals and spend quality time with family and friends.

The day's events feature special activities for the entire family including exciting dog sledding demonstrations.

Bundle up and join the Green Valley Dog Drivers (GVDD) and their four-legged friends as they demonstrate dog-sledding from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the zoo's West Mall. Members of the Lemont-based dog-sledding organization will engage guests in games and musher talks with their canine teams.

For more information call 708.485.0263 or www.brookfieldzoo.org

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Fall & Summer Adult Bowling Leagues

De La Salle Institute to host Meet the Meteors Night

De La Salle Institute proudly announces that it will be hosting its annual "Meet the Meteors Night" on Friday, February 15, 2013. Following De La Salle's boys varsity basketball game against Bishop McNamara at 7 pm, fans will be able to meet the members of the 2012-13 varsity boys basketball team. Schedule posters will be available and fans will be able to take pictures of their favorite Meteors.

The basketball game and the "Meet the Meteors" event will take place in the Parmer Activity Center located on De La Salle's Institute Campus for Young Men at 3434 S. Michigan Ave. in Chicago.

For more information, please contact De La Salle's Communications Coordinator, Mike Walsh, at 312-842-7355 ext. 145 or walshm@dls.org.

Marist High School tutoring program

Marist High School will offer a free one on one tutoring program for grade school students. The program will run for nine consecutive Thursdays through March 21st.

You can select tutoring time from 3:30 – 4:30 or 4:30 – 5:30 PM.

Marist students will provide tutoring in all grade school subjects.

Please contact Mrs. Pochyly at 773-881-5359 or pochyly.colleen@marist.net to sign up.

City of Oak Forest warming centers

Oak Forest residents in need of shelter during this dangerously cold spell of winter weather, can seek refuge at one of two Bremen Township warming centers, located at 15350 S. Oak Park (Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.), or 16361 S. Kedzie Parkway (Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.). Please call the centers at 708-687-8220 (Oak Park) or 708-333-9530 (Kedzie) before trying to gain entry to determine if they are in fact open.

Are you running for Eleection?
Call for rates as low as $20. in 4 Free Newspapers and On Line or visit www.vvnew.com, or call Linda at 708-425-1910.

A playground that keeps on giving

Though Oak Lawn and the country of Haiti are separated by thousands of miles, a playground will connect the two for many years to come thanks to the efforts of Kids Around the World and the Oak Lawn Park District.

Kids Around the World is a non-profit, faith-based organization that helps children and families who have been affected by war, poverty, illness and natural disasters. Kids Around the World takes donated playgrounds, refurbishes them and re-installs them in impoverished areas around the world.

Representatives from the organization arrived in Oak Lawn on Wednesday, June 27, 2012 to remove the playground equipment at the Oak Lawn Park District's Wolfe Wildlife Refuge, at 109th and Laramie.

Usually the city or country that receives the equipment is unknown. However, the park district was notified that Children of Hope Haiti was the beneficiary of the Wolfe Wildlife equipment.

Canadian Coordinator for Children of Hope Haiti, Karen Goodyear, was in Haiti and was able to witness the benefits of the donated playground. "To see the smiles on the children's faces was a real blessing. Most of the children there had never seen a playground," said Karen.

The park district staff is very proud of this project and is looking forward to working with Kids Around the World again in the near future.

The renovation of the Wolfe Wildlife Refuge is now complete and open to the community. Remodeling includes a new tree-themed play structure, poured-in-place rubber safety surface, splash pad amenities, renovations on the picnic structure, and new landscaping.

For more information, please contact 708-857-2225.

Carol Moriarty, Joanne Jager and Colleen Carroll.

More than 400 women marched into Alsip's Doubletree Hotel to fight breast cancer

Pink was the color of the night at the Doubletree Hotel in Alsip as more than 400 women laced in their pink boas, tiaras, and pajamas attended the 3rd annual Pink Pajama Party. The party is an overnight fundraiser celebration for breast cancer patients, survivors and supporters benefiting Little Company of Mary's Cancer Center for free Integrative Therapy programs and support services for cancer patients. For the third consecutive year the Pink Pajama Party has sold out nearly immediately after registration opened.

The fundraiser's co-chairs, Joanne Jager and Stacy Mulcahy, continue to be amazed at the generosity and support the event receives year after year. "There is nothing better than a girls' night out unless you can party in your PJ's with your girlfriends," said co-chair Joanne Jager. "For the third year this signature event for Little Company of Mary Hospital has brought breast cancer survivors, their friends, families and other supporters together for a night of dinner, giveaways, dancing and fun."

Aside from non-melanoma skin cancer, breast cancer is the most common cancer among women in the United States. One in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime. Breast cancer is one of the leading causes of cancer death among women of all races. However, with early detection and treatment, most people continue a normal life. Each year it is estimated that over 220,000 women and 2,150 men in the United States will be diagnosed with breast.

Little Company of Mary Hospital recognizes the importance of holistic health in the healing process and is responding to the needs of area cancer patients and their families who want access to these types of services. Integrative Therapy offers a full array of integrative therapy services for cancer patients, such as acupuncture, hypnosis for relaxation, guided imagery, massage therapy, yoga, Tai Chi and healing touch, post-treatment esthetic care, including prosthetic and make up counseling. This is in addition to all of the conventional cancer services. These are complementary therapies offered and they help cancer patients better cope with the life-changing event of a cancer diagnosis. The holistic therapies provide support and help patients become confident cancer survivors.

The Cancer Center's Integrative Therapy Department of Little Company of Mary Hospital honored with The Sister Nancy Boyle Award for Excellence at the Crystal Heart Ball. The Sister Nancy Boyle Award honors a person or Hospital program that reflects the gentle strength, compassion and courage Sister Nancy Boyle, L.C.M., an inspiring leader and friend to all who knew her.

For more information on the Pink Pajama Party please call 708.229.5066. To learn more about the Little Company of Mary's Integrative Therapy or the state-of-the-art Cancer Center, recognized by the Commission on Cancer of The American College of Surgeons, go to www.lcmh.org/cancer. To schedule a mammogram call 708.499.8550

Hickory Hills baseball and softball holding registrations

Hickory Hills Baseball and Softball will be holding registration for boys and girls ages 4 to 16 on Thursday, Feb. 7th from 5:30 to 8pm at the Hickory Hills Community Center at 7800 W 89th Pl. Registration is open for all Baseball, Fast Pitch Softball and T-Ball players in the surrounding area.

Go to www.hhyb.org for forms and information call George at 708 599-6983.

Preschool open house

Looking for the right Preschool program for your child? Attend one or both of the Oak Lawn Park District's Preschool Open Houses for children ages 3 and 4.

The first Open House (Learn as You Grow I and II programs) will be held at the Little White Building, 9514 S. 54th Ave., on Wednesday, February 6th, from 6:00-7:00 pm. The second Open House (PlaySchool and PrepSchool programs) will be held at the Oak View Center, 4625 W. 110th St., on Thursday, February 7th, from 6:00-7:00 pm.

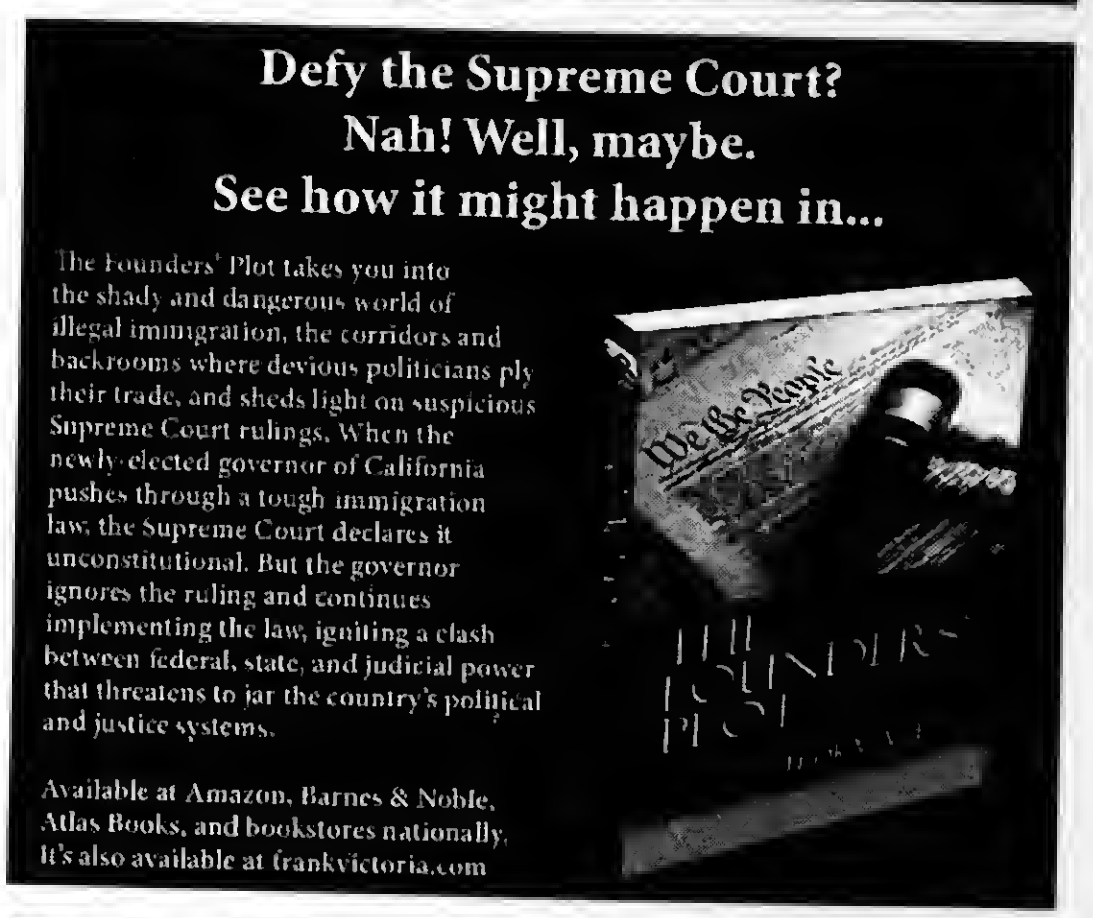
The Open Houses are free to the public and is a great opportunity for parents and children to meet with the preschool program teachers, check out the facilities and to receive detailed information about the 2013/2014 Oak Lawn Park District Preschool program.

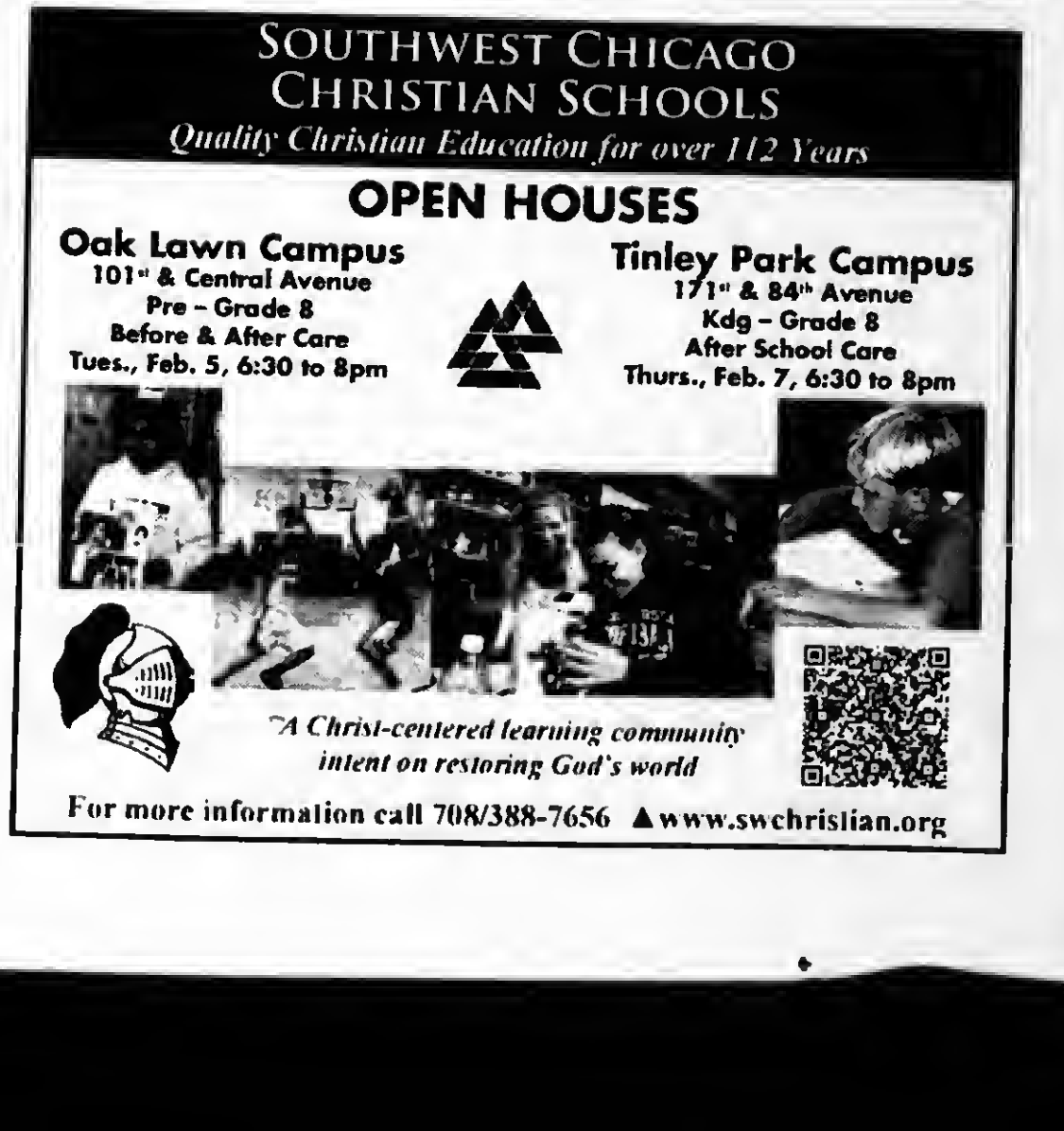
For more information, please contact the Oak View Center at 708-857-2200.

Annual free pancake breakfast and blood drive

The Oak Forest Rotary Club will hold its 19th Annual Free Pancake Breakfast and Entertainment, plus a Blood Drive at Oak Forest High School at 151st Street and Central Ave, Oak Forest, IL, on Sunday, February 17, 2013. From 8:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments will be given priority.

This free event includes fun for the whole family. Photo ID is required. For further information please contact Rotarian Jim Watson at 708-687-7026 to schedule a donation time.





The Auditorium Theatre welcomes famed Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater for two unprecedented weeks

Artistic Director Robert Battle's Second Season Brings World Premieres and New Choreographic Voices During 21-City U.S. Tour.

Executive Director of the Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University, Brett Batterson, welcomes world renowned Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater to Chicago for an unprecedented 10 full performances, March 8 – 17. Robert Battle returns for his second year as Artistic Director to lead one of the most popular dance companies through a 21-city tour, continuing to inspire and delight audiences with both new, innovative work as well as traditional pieces that have made Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater a staple on the international stage. Tickets ($32 – $92) are on sale now and available online at ticketmaster.com/auditorium, by calling (800) 982-ARTS (2787) or at the Auditorium Theatre Box Office (50 E Congress Pkwy). Two Student Matinee performances are offered on March 14 and 15, open to any elementary through high school for $12 each. Tickets are available by calling (312) 341-2357.

Building on a successful first season with the company, Artistic Director Robert Battle continues to enhance the already rich repertory of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater by combining a vibrant array of new choreographic voices with classical and traditional pieces. Battle stands by Ailey's mission to inspire audiences in a universal celebration of the human spirit using the African-American cultural experience and the American modern dance tradition. Battle's vision allows Ailey's extraordinary artists to push their limits with a diverse repertoire while connecting to audiences on various emotional levels. "I'm thrilled to further expand Ailey's diverse repertory with new voices and talented contemporary choreographers that showcase the depth and breadth of the dancers' artistry," said Battle.

Program Schedule and Ticket Information

Week 1

Friday, March 8, 7:30pm: Another Night, Strange Humors, Petite Mort, Revelations

Saturday, March 9, 2:00 & 8:00pm: From Before, Pas de Duke, Home, Revelations

Sunday, March 10, 3:00pm: Another Night, Strange Humors, Petite Mort, Revelations

Week 2

Wednesday, March 13, 7:30pm: Grace, Minus 16, Revelations

Thursday, March 14, 7:30pm: Another Night, Strange Humors, Petite Mort, Revelations

Friday, March 15, 7:30pm: From Before, Pas De Duke, Home, Revelations

Saturday, March 16, 2:00pm: Another Night, Strange Humors, Petite Mort, Revelations

Saturday, March 16, 8:00pm: Grace, Minus 16, Revelations

Sunday, March 17, 3:00pm: Grace, Pas De Duke, From Before, Revelations

Tickets are $32 - $92 and are available online at ticketmaster.com/auditorium, by calling (800) 982-ARTS (2787) or in-person at the Auditorium's Box Office (50 E Congress Pkwy). Discounted tickets available to groups of 10 or more are available by calling (312) 341-2357.

There will be two student matinees on March 14 and 15 at 11 a.m. The Ailey student matinee performances are available to elementary through high school student groups of 10 or more. Group tickets are $12 and available by calling (312) 341-2357.

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater is part of the Auditorium Theatre's 2012-2013 International Dance Series.

Auditorium Theatre 2013 Subscriptions

Discounted subscriptions to the Auditorium Theatre's 2013 Season are on sale now. For more information or to purchase a subscription call (312) 341-2357 or visit AuditoriumTheatre.org.

2013 season packages available include:

3-Show International Dance Series - Save 15% when you purchase tickets to Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater (March 8 – 17, 2013), Eisenhower Dance Ensemble – "Motown in Motion" (April 14, 2013) and Eifman Ballet of St. Petershurg – "Rodin" (May 17 - 19, 2013).

Do offer Seniors Discounts? Advertise and let everyone know. Call 708-425-1910 for low Rates

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Sunday, March 3, 2013

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708-458-6900 ext 411 or email momsclub@stlaurence.com
Mark your payment envelope: Mothers Club Super Bingo
Limited tickets available - Cash only at the door

Alsip-Merrionette Park Public Library new location

The Alsip-Merrionette Park Public Library, currently housed in a temporary facility at 12838 S. Cicero Ave., in Alsip, is moving back to its newly renovated building at 11960 S. Pulaski Rd. in Alsip. The current facility on Cicero is closed, and will be closed for three weeks for the move. The newly renovated building on Pulaski will open at 9am on Monday, February 25th, 2013.

The library's telephone number 708-371-5666 will remain the same, but there could be service interruptions during the move. During the three weeks the Alsip-Merrionette Park Library is closed, the library's patrons can use their cards at surrounding suburban libraries. Interlibrary loan service is available at the Blue Island, Chicago Ridge, Midlothian, Oak Lawn, and Palos Heights Public Libraries. To find out more details and updates about the move check the library's web site at www.alsiplibrary.info

Moraine Valley to host pitching and hitting camp

Moraine Valley Community College is hosting a pitching, catching and hitting camp for youths 8 to 18 years old on Feb. 23 and 24.

The pitching and catching camp is on Feb. 23, 9 to 11 a.m. for 8 to 12 year olds and 1 to 3 p.m. for 13 to 18 year olds. The hitting camp is on Feb. 24, 9 to 11 a.m. for 8 to 12 year olds and 1 to 3 p.m. for 13 to 18 year-olds.

Camps will be instructed by Moraine Valley baseball coaches Cole Farmer and Alain Quijano along with some Moraine Valley baseball players. Farmer has coached high school teams, including a Springfield Catholic team that made the final four, in addition to the Extra Innings baseball organization where he worked with the junior All-USA team coach and helped with camps. Quijano was an all-conference pitcher in at Grand View University and later helped coach his alma mater to two conference championship seasons. He also played with the 2008 championship Windy City Thunderbolts.

The camp is $50 per class or $75 for both. Cash or checks will be accepted. Make checks out to Moraine Valley Community College. All sessions will take place in the gymnasium, Building G, on campus, 9000 W. College Pkwy in Palos Hills.

For information and to sign up, contact Coach Quijano at (708) 974-5773 or quijanoa3@morainevalley.edu.

Hickory Hills Park District hosts preschool open house

On Wednesday, February 20th from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. the preschool teachers will be hosting an Open House, at Cynthia Neal Rec. Center, 8047 w. 91st Place, Hickory Hills.

Open House is for those parents wishing to enroll their child in a preschool program for the first time for the 2013-2014 school year.

An informational pamphlet on our preschool program will be available that night or call (708) 598-1233 to have one mailed.

Blue Island Arts Alliance hosts Hooray for Hollywood

Former Saks Director Shares an Insider's Look at Fashion in Film.

Join the Blue Island Arts Alliance, dedicated to enlivening cultural and educational events in the City of Blue Island, for a special pre-Oscar presentation to celebrate fashion in film. The event will be held Sunday, Feb. 17, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. at Three Sisters Antique Mall, 2nd Floor, 13042 Western Ave., Blue Island

"Hooray for Hollywood" will be commentated by Nena Ivon. She has presented hundreds of lectures and thousands of fashion shows through the years, prior to her retirement as Fashion and Special Events Director for Saks Fifth Avenue three years ago. In addition to being a fashion lecturer, she is also the founder and partner of TalksChic, a lifestyle speakers bureau, and adjunct faculty at Columbia College Chicago.

"Just in time for the Osear awards, this presentation will take a closer look at fashion in film with celebrated style icon Nena Ivon," said Becky Denny, Blue Island Arts Alliance board president. "With more than 50 years in the fashion industry, Nena will share her unique perspective with our guests, including some eye-catching visuals."

The presentation will feature the glory days of film—from its beginnings through the golden age of cinema during the 1920s, 30s and 40s – when Hollywood costume design and designers became the standard for international fashion. Learn about the excitement of the era and how the studio system shaped the fashions of the time.

"Hooray for Hollywood" tickets are $10 each, and are available in advance at CARR Home-Garden-Holiday, 2357 York Street, Blue Island. Tickets will also be sold at the door on the day of the event.

TOP PLAYS TO REVIEW

by Annette Dixon

Other Desert Cities written by Jon Robin Baitz, directed by Henry Wishcamper and playing through February 17, 2013 at Goodman Theatre.

On Christmas Eve when the family gets together and the unmarried kids come home from out of town for the holidays, they come with all types of anticipated fantasies that start to disintegrate. All it takes to do so is a conservative California couple, and a laid back Hollywood Producer and a daughter who is a liberal writer with a history of depression. You will notice the hypocrisy that overwhelms the conversations and family togetherness. It reminds you to button up those lips during family visits.

Jon Robin Baitz, writer, playwright, screen writer, TV Writer, and creator of Brother and Sisters series, OPBS Three Hotels, The West Wing and Alias, wrote Other Desert Cities and won the Outer Critics Circle Award and nominated for the Pulitzer Prize and a Tony Award.

Other Desert Cities made its Chicago Premiere with Tony Award Winner Dianna Dunagan, and Mad Men's Chelcie Ross and an all Chicago Cast. For tickets call 312-443-3800 visit Goodman Theatre.org

Peter Pan performs until February 10th at the Cadillac Palace. Petite, energetic, vivacious Cathy Rigby, Olympic Star does it again by wooing the audience, young and not so young as Peter Pan.

Our spellbound eyes focused on the story with the superb acting of Cathy Rigby, Brant Barrett as Mr. Darling/Hook.

Peter Pan is produced by McCoy Rigby Entertainment and tickets can be purchased at the Cadillac Palace Theatre by calling 312-977-1710 or visit the web on www.BroadwayInChicago.com

Sunset Boulevard is currently at Drury Lane Theatre Oak Brook Terrace.

Thanks to Drury Lane Productions, they have put on another fantastic play with William Osetek^, director, Scenic Designer, Scott Davis, Lighting Designer, Rita Pietraszek, South Designer, Ray Nardelli, Costume Designer, Theresa Ham, Projections Designer, Mike Tutaj, Properties Designer, Nick Heggestad, Wig & Makeup Design, Rick Jarvie, Assistant Director, Scott Calcagno, Production Manager, Juli Walker, Stage Manager, Lucia Lombardi, Technical Director, Jeremy Drechny, NY Casting Agent, Laura Stanczyk Casting.

Sunset Boulevard, an Andrew Lloyd Webber's triumphant Broadway Musical hit opened Friday, February 1, through March 24th. Christine Sherrill, Norma Desmond, returns to Drury to delight the audience. Christine made her role of Norma intertwine with our emotions of the past Hollywood era. Christine was loved by the audience. The interaction of Will Ray, Joe, Christine Sherrill, Norma, was more of a 90's type of guy versus that of a 30's man, but surely he was handsome enough to overcome that obstacle.

The storyline and talent of the cast kept my interest in the play and secondly in the music, thanks to the outstanding orchestra Conductor/Keyboard, Ben Johnson.

Tickets available at Box Office 630-530-0111, or www.drurylaneoakbrook.com

Steppenwolf Theatre Company presents The Birthday Party

With Francis Guinan and John Mahoney nothing is a miss. This award winner cast of such talented people includes Moira Harris as Meg, Sophia Sinise as Lulu, Ian Barford as Stanley, and Marc Grapy as McCann.

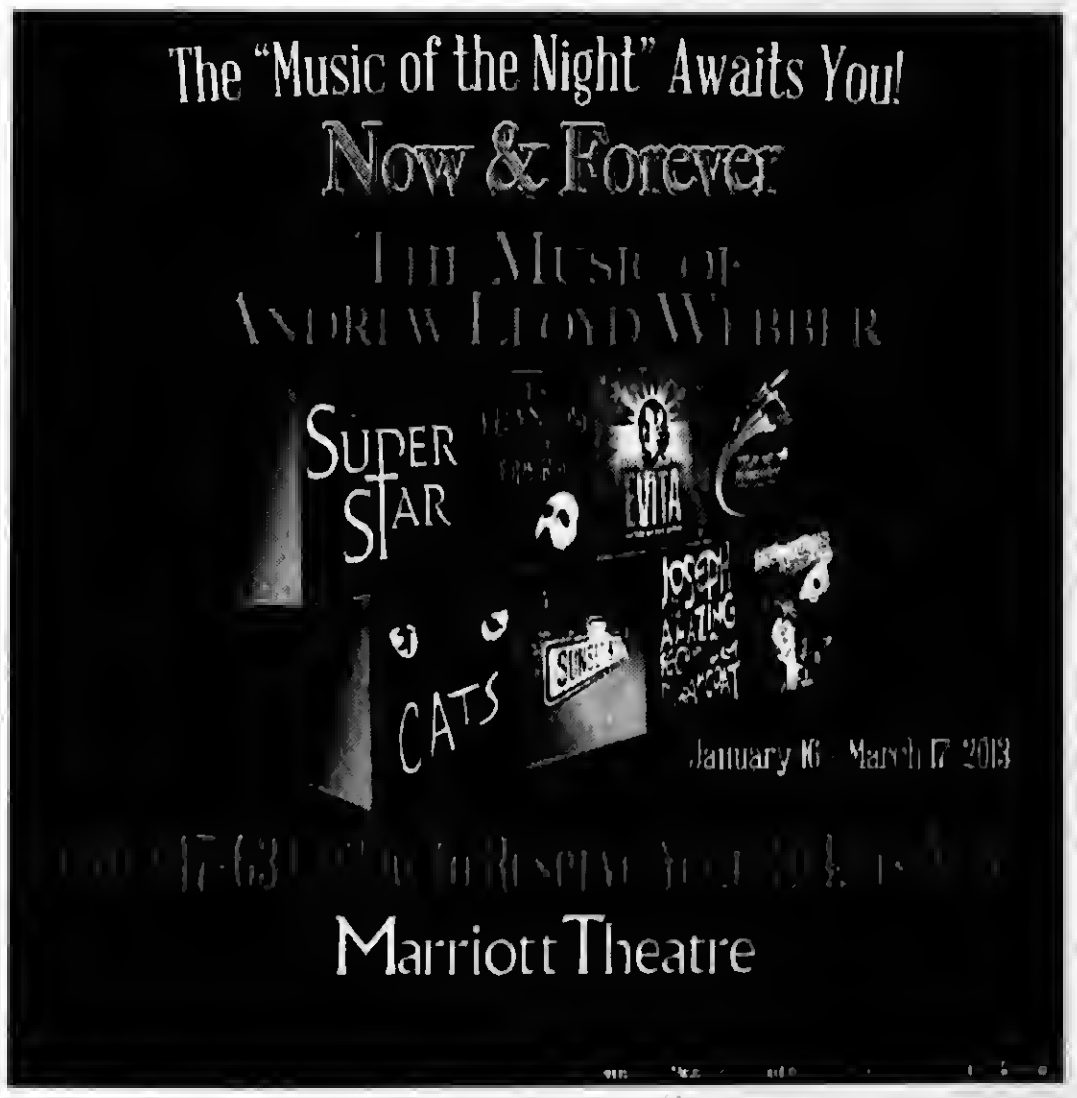
My honest opinion, was that I wasn't quite sure about my interest in this play. After the intermission I decided to continue on with my desire to finish this play and surely it was well worth it. I have to say that there certainly could have been alot of cutting in the first and second act.

I believe that there is to much redundancy that became annoying.

About the Playwright, Harold Pinter. He was born in London which explains the verbiage, born in 1930 died 2008. He wrote 29 plays, The Caretaker, The Homecoming and Betrayal, he has 21 screenplays under his belt including The Servant, and Sleuth. He certainly has the credentials to make a successful play as The Birthday Party.

Maybe it's just me so come out to Steppenwolf and try this play for yourself. After seeing it, please go on our website and make your comments or be sure to call or write me. This is one time I would love to have some critics other than myself.

For tickets go to steppenwolf.org or call Steppenwolf box office.



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Some great reading on those stay at home days

THE MIDDLESTEINS
a novel by
Jami Attenberg

If you haven't read The Middlesteins by Jami Attenberg, you haven't discovered the Power of Learning.

This book is not only about Edie and her obsession with food, but the human interest story of the development of life from birth to death.

The author takes each character and develops reasons for them to be in the whole story. From chapter one and throughout the book each character is developed and mentioned intentionally to interact with the one another. The storyline is very cohesive.

In The Middlesteins, Attenberg has given us an incredibly vibrant story that explores the hopes and heartbreaks of new and old love through the lens of an average family just trying to get things right, all the while addressing the tough subject of our culture's devastating and fascinating preoccupation with food. With crisp prose and big heat, The Middlesteins reinforces Attenberg's place on the literary map and leave her readers hungry for more.

ITALIAN-YES!

A compilation of narrative stories from ten authors who love their Italian culture, wrote about it and gave up their private family recipes.

In 1998, Sister Mary Ventura, O.P. and Annette Dixon decided to start an Italian American Women's Club. They gathered up their friends and held their first meeting at Oak Lawn Library with a total of eight people. One purpose was to learn about Italian American Women who have accomplished much. We found very little information in the libraries, so we had to seek out Italian American Women from Italy.

Now we had a purpose to develope a book about the women in our lives. Our grandmothers and mothers. Our first book was titled Voices of America, Italian American Women of Chicagoland. The book was published by Arcadia and is still selling on Amazon.com and local bookstores.

We thought we were going to make money for our scholarship program. We made a little, but not enough to develope an annual scholarship. So three years later, we had a new president named, Carol Broadway and she developed a Cookbook. With the help of the current membership, Carol named the book Italian Family Recipes, and published by Morris Press Cookbooks. This was our best seller and money maker. Now we could accomplish what the mission statement was all about, that is starting a college scholarship program for Italian American students.

Our organization was started to keep the Italian culture alive and to inform the Italian American Youth about their heritage. What the women have accomplished by writing about their mother and grandmother, hopefully would remain in the libraries for future references.

Italian-Yes! The current Italian American Women members wrote their book. It is out in the bookstores, on the internet and some are sold by members. If you are interested in reading this book, I assure you it is in large print, it has loads of pictures and many authentic Italian family recipes.

This book is easily held for it is a soft cover book and can also be bought as an ebook. You can purchase this at Barnes and Noble or on-line at their website or amazon.com. If you want to call the publishing company Xlihris 888-795-4274 ext. 7879, you will be able to get several copies shipped to you. Now it is 2013, our club is maturing and we are looking for new members. We meet on the second Tuesday of every month at St. Bernadette School, Evergreen Park.

You can call Sister Mary Ventura, for more information at 708-857-2005.

Reef: Cities Beneath the Sea

The newest film making a splash at Navy Pier IMAX Theatre is The Last Reef: Cities Beneath the Sea, a thrilling underwater journey that uses unprecedented 3D cinematography to bring the teeming world of coral reefs to life. Shot on location in Palau, Bahamas, Cancun, French Polynesia and New York, The Last Reef takes us from the heart of the city to the heart of the reef.

The Last Reef was shot over a period of three years, with much of the underwater footage captured on the reefs of Palau, 500 miles west of the Philippines. Palau is a beautiful archipelago of limestone rock islands sheltered by a massive reef, with a multitude of easily accessible coral formations in clear, calm waters. Individual sites in the film include Jellyfish Lake, Blue Corner, the German Channel and Mandarin Fish Lake. Mangrove footage was mainly shot in Bimini, with the added advantage of lemon sharks, reef sharks, stingrays and some excellent wreck sites. The reef aerials were shot in 15/70 large format film over the French Polynesian islands of Bora Bora, Maupiti, Tupai and Rangiroa atoll.

Reefs possess a dizzying bustle of sea creatures that rival mankind's most populated regions. Illustrating how these seemingly distant cities are surprisingly like our own communities, many unexpected urban locations appear in The Last Reef.

The Last Reef is the third collaboration for producers Giant Screen Films and Yes/No Productions. http:// www.thelastreef.com/

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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 39 | Number 16 | February 19, 2013

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

OLCHS students searching for how the universe began

Students searching for how the universe began tried to find answers at the University of Chicago. Several physics students from Oak Lawn Community High School took part in a panel discussion highlighting the discovery of the elusive Higgs Boson particle. The event was hosted by the Institute and gave participants the chance to interact with practicing physicists and learn about cutting-edge research. Pictured above (from left to right) are senior Advanced Placement Physics students Cathal Burke, Marc Augustine, and Nick Demas

Evergreen Park approves motor fuel tax resolution

by Matt Mayer

Officials at the Feb. 4 Evergreen Park Board of Trustees meeting approved a resolution for the maintenance of village streets and highways under the Illinois Highway Code of the Illinois Department of Transportation for $570,000, which was derived from motor fuel tax was approved. A request from Fire Chief Kleinhaus to waive the bidding process and approve a contract with Hanson Doors, the village's current door repair service company, for the replacement of the east fire station overhead doors for $23,900.00 was also approved.

Kleinhaus also said a representative from Insurances Services Office (ISO) regarding the Public Protection Classification visited the village in September to conduct a public protection classification survey, which the fire department. The survey indicated that the village retained their Class 3 rating. However, upon reviewing the report an error was found in their calculations regarding the receiving and transmission of fire alarms. The village had not received credit for the number of on-duty dispatchers, said Kleinhaus. The representative was contacted and the updated survey was forwarded to their home office for correction. This resulted in the village being upgraded to a Public Protection Class 2 rating, said Kleinhaus.

A request from Public Works Director Bill Lorenz for permission to advertise for bids for the 2013 landscape maintance contract for the 95th Street, 87th Street and Village Hall Complex was approved. A request from Police Chief Mike Saunders to hire one individual from the current posted Probationary Patrol Officer Eligibility List due to a vacancy in the department was also approved.

Justice welcomes new Chief of Police

by Jan Glaz

Village President Kris Wasowicz announced a motion for the appointment of Lieutenant Kraig McDermott to the position of Chief of Police of the Justice Police Department on February 11th at the Village of Justice President and Board of Trustees Meeting. The Board of Trustees approval was followed by statements of praise and applause for Chief of Police Kraig McDermott.

Other Village Business: Village Clerk Kathy Svohoda reported that Cook County Assessor, Joseph Barrios, has extended the deadline for applying for the Senior Exemption on Cook County Property Tax bills from February 6th to February 20th. The Senior Exemption must now be renewed annually. Cook County property owners can download a form at www.CookCountyAssessor.com. Check out the Village of Justice website http://www.villageofjustice.org/ for information.

Donations approved by the Board of Trustees: $100.00 to the Special Olympics of Illinois to support their continuing opportunities for children and adults with disabilities and $500.00 to the Illinois Michigan Canal National Heritage Corridor. Trustee Sue Small announced that the next Lyons Township Mobile Food Pantry Distribution is scheduled for Thursday, February 21st, at 3:00 pm at the Justice Administration Building. Trustee Ed Rusch thanked the members of the Board of Trustees and the Finance Office because based on a report dated February 6th there was a half a million dollars in the Village Account and after the post payables are paid the village will technically have approximately $600,000. "That may sound like a lot of money but between payrolls and bills that amount can disappear quickly," said Rusch.

Before the meeting adjourned Trustee Ed Rusch introduced 3 motions for new businesses opening in Justice. Approved is the business license of Azteca Catering Co. doing business at 8420 S. 88th Avenue; Total Quality Truck & Trailer Repair doing business at 9001 W. 79th Place; and the business license of The Coin Guy, Inc. doing business at 8432-B S 88th Avenue. Trustee Rusch stated, "Business is picking up as fewer and fewer open spots are available in the village... the tide is turning."

Former Hickory Hills resident addresses City Council

by Jan Glaz

A concerned former resident of Hickory Hills addressed the Board of Trustees recently at the Hickory Hills City Council Meeting and complained about the burglary bars on a T-Mobile store. "It's the first thing you see when you come into Hickory Hills off the expressway... I think it sends a terrible message. Hickory Hills has an above average police department and a low crime rate but I think the burglary bars scare people and it affects property values. Oak Lawn has a T-Mobile on Southwest Highway and Cicero without bars." The City Council disagreed. Alderman McHugh stated that he had seen burglar bars at AT&T stores and having the bars depends on the business standard.

The City Council moved to approve the voluntary employee's beneficiary association (VEBA) Agreement Modifications. VEBA is a form of trust fund permitted under the United States federal tax law, whose sole purpose must be to provide employee benefits. The types of benefits are accident insurance benefits, childcare costs, employee continuing education, and the cost of legal services, life insurance benefits, severance pay, supplemental unemployment benefits, sick leave pay, training benefits, and vacation pay. A VEBA cannot provide commuter benefits, miscellaneous fringe benefits or retiree income. The plan may pay benefits to employees, their dependents, or their designated beneficiaries, or to disabled, laid-off, or retired former employees. The council approval consisted of two separate motions: One for the side agreement for the Hickory Hills Police Chapter #246; and one for the Public Works Union.

New Business: Before the meeting adjourned Alderman Waight announced two business licenses in Hickory Hills: Terminal GR – Computer Business – 9241 S. Roberts Road; and Spa & Beauty Salon at 7834 W. 95th Street.

Lunch offered for area senior citizens through congregate dining program

Stickney Township Office on Aging offers a congregate meal site program for area senior citizens age 60 years and older. The dining program provides nutritionally balanced meals, nutrition education and nutrition risk screening for older adults aged 60 years and older and their spouses, and encourages socialization and better health through disease prevention and health promotion programs. The served meals meet nutritional standards by incorporating the Dietary Guidelines for Americans and providing a minimum of one-third of the Dietary Reference Intakes. The congregate meal program provides a hot lunch served daily, Monday thru Friday, at the Louis S. Viverito Senior Center in Burbank and on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the North Stickney Medical Center in Stickney. Lunch is served at 11:30 for a requested $2.00 donation.

Seniors who attend this program also participate in a variety of other services offered at each senior center location including: exercise classes, wellness seminars, bingo, craft classes, trips, and various health screenings. The dining program is the ideal place for older adults to socialize and build companionship. There are also volunteer opportunities offered to seniors at the sites.

The Louis S. Viverito Senior Center is located at 7745 S. Leamington Ave. in Burbank and the North Medical Center is located at 6721 W. 40th St. in Stickney. For more information about any of STOA's programs please call 708-636-8850.

Village View

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 4 | February 19, 2013

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Tinley Park upgrades 14 year old dispatch system

by Jan Glaz

The Tinley Park Board of Trustees unanimously decided to upgrade the Villages 14 year old computer aided dispatch (CAD system) at the Board of Trustees Meeting held on February 5th in order to stay in compliance with State and Federal regulations and guidelines. The Village has $800,000 budgeted in the current fiscal year for upgrade expenditures. Upon review of options over a seven month period the Village decided to remain with the current CAD provider. SunGard, in part due to an ability to integrate with other existing Village information systems; lower cost associated with remaining with the current provider; and increased ability to transfer data from the current CAD system into a new/upgraded CAD.

Back in December of 2012, the software and license agreement portion of the CAD system with SunGard was approved by the Village Board in the amount of $404,971. The agreement provides for the purchase of the necessary hardware for the CAD system as well as the redundant/back-up 911 center. The approved hardware agreement with SunGard Public Sector for the upgrade is in an amount not to exceed $197,589; an amount of $199,440 will remain in the Village's CAD budget for the current fiscal year. In relation to the CAD system the Board of Trustees also approved a software agreement with the Porter Lee Corporation for upgrades. The agreement with Porter Lee Corporation would entitle the Village to utilize an integrated evidence tracking system commonly referred to as "The Beast". This software would allow Tinley Park to integrate with the State of Illinois Crime Lab and will assist the Police Department with maintaining evidence integrity and control.

Noteworthy: The Board of Trustees authorized a fuel purchase contract with Warren Oil Company for bulk fuel. Upon completion of researching options and interviewing vendors, the Village selected Warren Oil Company, based on several factors: One vendor providing fuel would reduce/safeguard the Village from issues arising from the use of multiple vendors; the Village would have a fixed fuel cost; having one fuel provider allows the Village priority access ranking during emergency situations.

The village's program invites students with little or no experience and is led by former Polish National Champion Marek Stepien.

Village of Orland Park Recreation to showcase fencing program

The Village of Orland Park Recreation Department will showcase its fencing program at an open house on Saturday, February 23. The event will be held from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the village's Cultural Center, 14760 Park Lane.

Parents and children are invited to learn more about the sport of fencing. Attendees will see how a competition works and be able to meet the program instructors.

A fun competition among current students will demonstrate the skills and technique that participants learn. Refreshments will be served following the competition.

The Recreation Department's fencing classes are for the student with little or no experience. Fencing develops agility, strength, speed, cunning, and best of all, it's fun. Program Instructor Marek Stepien is the former Polish national champion and the assistant coach for the Notre Dame Fencing Team.

For more information about the open house and the village's fencing program, contact Orland Park Recreation Program Supervisor Stephanie Simpson at 708/364-0682 or call the Recreation Department at 708/403-PARK.

City of Oak Forest to conduct home inspections

by Jan Glaz

Recently at the Oak Forest City Council Meeting, Troy Ishler, City Administrator, stated that it is not an option but mandatory, by law, that the residents of the city of Oak Forest allow the city access to their property for a home inspection. Ishler said that the city is trying to eliminate the inflow and infiltration of storm water into the city's sanitary system, which overloads the system, and causes basement problems as well. The city is currently conducting inspections of residential pumping systems and checking for illegal connections where people pump storm water directly into the sanitary sewers; the inspections are required to address the problem. The city utilizes a grid area to select a residence for inspection, tags the home, puts out notices and informs owners through reverse 911 calls. Ishler stated, "Residents be aware that this is a program by the city, every inspector has city ID's on them and if they have any questions please call city hall." Troy Ishler also reported that the city has only about 100 ash trees, infected with the Emerald Ash Borer, to remove. The trees are located in the Bramblewood and Westview subdivisions, west of Oak Park Avenue and work should be finished by April 1st. As for the process of replanting trees Ishler said that the city has created for residents a no cost permit system through the Public Works Department. The city comes out, inspects the area and then tells the residents what can be planted and where it can be planted to prevent the problem of having too many of the same species of trees. "We have a list of ten different trees... It's very important to call the Public Works Department before calling vendors," said Ishler.

Before the meeting adjourned the council voted yes to the appointment of Andrew Tinberg to the Oak Forest Police Department Pension Board. Mr. Tinberg will replace Scott Burkhardt, current city clerk, on the pension board. Andrew Tinberg was also appointed to the Oak Forest Fire Department Pension Board, replacing Colleen Julian, current finance director, on the pension board. Mayor Henry Kuspa stated that it was his honor to request the appointment of Mr. Tinberg, who is Market President of CNB Bank & Trust in Oak Forest. Tinberg and his wife Susan are longtime residents and have been very active in community affairs.

Tinley Park Public Library closings

Library Holiday Closings

The Tinley Park Public Library will be closed on Friday, March 29, 2013 and Sunday, March 31, 2013 for the spring holidays.

Library Closed for In-Service Day

The Tinley Park Public Library will close on Thursday, April 18, 2013 for Staff In-Service Day. The bookdrop will be available to return materials. To renew books, place holds, and pay fines, visit the library's website www.tplibrary.org twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. For more information phone 708.532.0160, x3. The library is located at 7851 Timber Drive. Our website is www.tplibrary.org.

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SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 14 | Number 4 | February 19, 2013

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

WGN Radio voice to present at Moraine Valley's speaker event

As part of Moraine Valley Community College's Career Paths and Coffee adult information sessions, the speaker series will continue with its presentation, "Creating Positive Impressions: Build Your Network and Get Hired." This free event is Thursday, March 7, 6-8:30 p.m., in Building M on campus, 9000 W. College Pkwy in Palos Hills.

The speaker for this event is Bill Moller, an award-winning broadcast journalist and current on-air host at WGN Radio. He also was a host at WLS-AM and CLTV. For his work, Moller has won three Emmys, two Peter Lisagor Awards for Exemplary Journalism and two Associated Press awards among others. He also is president of Bill Moller Communications, LLC. Moller will address how a job seeker can present themselves with poise, energy and confidence while building a network to help land a job.

Sign-in begins at 6 p.m. with light refreshments before the presentation begins at 6:30 p.m. There also will be time for questions.

The speaker series occurs three times a year on campus and features current job trends, career search tips, Moraine Valley programs and certifications, and career paths. Target audiences are those who are unemployed or underemployed and anyone wanting to learn how to improve their competitive edge in the job market or workplace. The next speaker is scheduled for August 3.

In addition to the speaker series, Career Paths and Coffee sessions are monthly hour-long gatherings on all three of Moraine Valley's campuses and throughout the year at district libraries that provide information for adults interested in learning about programs and resources at Moraine Valley in a relaxed setting.

To RSVP for the speaker event or for more information, contact Deb Wills at (708) 974-5759 and email Willsd6@morainevalley.edu or Peggy Heenan at (708) 974-5312 and heenanm6@morainevalley.edu or visit morainevalley.edu/adultsuccess.

Chicago Ridge Firefighter receives Oath of Office

by Matt Mayer

In a conversation regarding the Feb. 5 Chicago Ridge Board of Trustees meeting the meeting commenced with Tom Wiese receiving the oath of office as a Firefighter/Paramedic as well as the hiring of an appraiser for the Harlem Avenue Tax Increment District ((TIF) at the former Yellow Trucking terminal site. A sign variance for 6613 W. 95th Street was also approved.

Other highlights: officials discussed hiring Third Millennium Associates for purchasing vehicle stickers. The company has contracts with 140 Illinois municipalities and has a modem system. If the village decides to hire TMA, the company will mail sticker reminders to residents and install a database at the municipal building which would manage applications, record the issuance of stickers, and process any changes. Officials said there would not be a processing fee if they partner with TMA. Online purchasing would be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. If the village chooses to hire TMA, vehicle stickers will continue to be available for purchase at the municipal building.

The village is looking to revamp their Website and welcomes the input of residents. Those interested may fill out a Website survey. Also residents may participate in automatic utility bill payments. The village will automatically deduct payment of resident's water, sewer, and refuse collection from a checking or savings account. Interested individuals may fill out an online authorization form and attach a voided check from their account. The form and check can be returned to the Village of Chicago Ridge, 10455 Ridgeland Avenue, Chicago Ridge, Il 60415.

Additional information regarding the participation of the Website survey or automatic utility bill payment may be obtained at www.chicagoridge.org/ or by calling the municipal building at 708.425.7700.

Palos Heights approves water rate increase

by Matt Mayer

Officials at the Palos Heights City Council meeting approved a water rate increase of 15 percent, which is based on the increase the city received from the Village to Alsip, which is the city water provider. The increase coincides with the Chicago water rate increase. A 1 percent local infrastructure increase was also approved as well as an ordinance abating the 2012 tax levy regarding the payment of principal and interest due on General Obligation Library Bonds Series 2003. A contract with Hometown Suburban Vending to provide beverage and snack vending machines at the Metra Station was also approved.

Other highlights: An ordinance for a sign variance to the city's code section 93.40 pertaining to "permitted signs" of the municipal code to allow Palos Christian Reform Church, 7059 W. 127th Street, which is in a "R" district to replace their existing monument sign with a new monument sign which includes an electronic message center was approved. A contract with American Underground of IL, LLC for $4,000, which was withheld for the McCarthy Road water main project was approved. The project has been satisfactorily completed.

Palos Park Recreation Department events

Come explore the wonderful world of sports using nerf equipment over at the Palos Park Recreation Department. Nerf Sports begins Wednesday, March 6–April 10, from 3:15-4:00 pm for ages 5-7. Each day will focus on the basics of a different sport. Young athletes will explore new games and develop a variety of coordination skills along with learning the importance of teamwork and good sportsmanship.

Hey mom and dad don't miss all the fun! Palos Park Recreation Department begins Parent and Me: Nerf Sports on Wednesday, March 6-April 10 from 2:30-3:15 pm for ages 3-4. This is very like our Nerf Sports Class however parents get to explore the wonderful world of sports with their child using nerf equipment. Each day will focus on the basics of a different sport. Young athletes will explore new games and develop a variety of coordination skills along with learning the importance of teamwork and good sportsmanship.

Palos Park Recreation is offering 55-Alive Driver's Safety Program on Wednesday, March 20 and March 27, for ages 55 and older, from 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. The fee is $12 for members of AARP and $14 for non-members. A certificate of completion will be issued at the end of this two-day course. Illinois insurance companies offer a discounted premium upon completion. Both classes must be attended. Pre-registration required. Check made payable to AARP and given to the instructor.

See page 4 for more events and information.

March 5th is our St. Patrick's/ St. Joseph's Day issue. Advertise your specials at low rates. Call 708-425-1910 for more details.

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B-MAC EDITION

Volume 7 | Number 4 | February 19, 2013

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Alsip Sewer and Water Department may cut man hours

by Jan Glaz

Recently, at the Village of Alsip Board of Trustees Meeting, Trustee Ryan reported that in locating power and water lines both the Water and Sewer Departments are responsible for doing as many as 800 to 1,000 locates per year at an average of 20-30 hours a week per department, approximately 40 to 60 hours a week doing locates. A committee will discuss hiring a subcontractor to save on man hours. Ryan also announced that as it stands the Water Department takes care of water lines but not necessarily sewer lines and the village is planning to discuss connecting these responsibilities.

The council approved three resolutions for appropriation of Motor Fuel Tax Funds regarding the maintenance of streets and highways: From January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2011, the amount of $34,000; from January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012, the amount of $6000; and from January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013 an amount of $100,000. Under the Village Attorneys business an ordinance passed approving a Release Settlement and Indemnity Agreement between the Village of Alsip, PFA Systems, Inc. and the Southwest Hazardous Materials Response Team.

End notes: The Board of Trustees agreed to allow the Alsip-Merrionette Park Public Library to auction furnishings on March 3rd to March 10th at a temporary location and to waive permit fees. The council also agreed to allow the Alsip Little League to place signs throughout the Village of Alsip advertising league registration.

Midlothian closes in on $400,000 grant

by Jan Glaz

The Board of Trustees adopted a resolution to execute an agreement with Weaver Boos Consultants for the $400,000 United States Environmental Protection Agency Grant (USEPA) at the Village of Midlothian Board of Trustees Meeting held on February 13th. Community Development director, Trustee Karen Kreis, reported that it takes an incredible amount of work to make the timetables and to accomplish all the goals outlined in the stringent requirements of the EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant. "The consultant will help us to undertake this very exciting work in the village of Midlothian... We will see benefits from this," said Kreis.

Mayor Terrence Stephens addressed the council and proclaimed the month of March as National Athletic Training Month for 2013. Stephens remarked, "For our student athlete's or any athlete it is important that we have qualified care givers, people who are trained and certified in providing that care." The proclamation stated that athletic trainers provide quality health care for athletes and those engaged in physical activity based on specific tasks using knowledge and skills acquired through their nationally regulated educational processes. In addition, the National Athletic Trainers' Association represents and supports 35,000 members of the athletic training profession employed in the following settings: professional Sports; colleges and universities; high schools; clinics and hospitals; corporate and industrial settings and military branches.

Noteworthy approvals: A resolution to Execute a DMC Security Services Contract to Provide Fire Alarm System to the Village of Midlothian in Three Phases for a total cost of $18,818.00. The Mayor said it was discovered that they did not have fire alarm service in the Village Hall and it is required in all the buildings in the village and we are phasing this over three years and using a local vendor to provide the service; a motion carried to purchase a Michael Woike Hall plaque/sign for the renovated Village Hall Door; officials also approved Mayor Stephans to create a Gazebo Events Committee and the appointments of Tony Velasquez Chairman and Maureen Heath, Bob Peters and Rita Sareny as Committee Members.

Special Olympics honors Village of Crestwood

by Jan Glaz

An enormous trophy shared council space with Crestwood Mayor Robert Stranczek and the Board of Trustees at the Village of Crestwood Board of Trustees Meeting on February 7th. The trophy designates the Crestwood Police Department as the top fundraiser law enforcement agency in the entire state of Illinois for the year 2012, a great honor. Deputy Chief Dave Weigan defines the Crestwood police officers as outstanding people who always want to do right thing for others. Weigan is quoted as saying, "This type of activity and effort is typical of the men and women in our department. They are the kind of people that would help anyone, any day at any time." Crestwood officers have participated in the Law Enforcement Torch Run events since 2008. Previously, Crestwood raised a total of $21,418, ranking 9th of more than three hundred Illinois law enforcement agencies participating in the LETR. In 2012 the Crestwood team has exceeded its total from the previous year demonstrating their strong dedication and commitment to Special Olympics Illinois. "The Police Department does a great job coming together and I would like to personally thank them," said Stranczek. A large round of applause followed the Mayor's acknowledgement.

Crestwood items of interest: It is reported that the Salt Dome Project is near completion. Public Works expects the dome to hold 180 tons of salt, minor blacktop work will start in late spring. A new wood floor has been revived on the Biela Center stage; also the Crestwood Police Station interior is receiving a spruce-up with a fresh coating of paint throughout the building. Next on the agenda is to administer a face lift to the exterior of the Village Hall.

Before adjourning the meeting, Mayor Stranczek announced consideration of the appointment of Colleen Jagodzinski as a part-time temporary file clerk in the Village Clerk's Office at a rate of $12.50 per hour, retroactive from January 9, 2013 terminating April 30, 2013. All voted in favor of the appointment.

Blue Island Chamber installation dinner and awards banquet

Chamber directors (left to right): Elias Rodriguez, Restaurante Tenochtitlan; Ken Stachulak, City of Blue Island; Greg Lochow, Blue Island Chamber; Sandy Addison Miller, Acme Refining; Denise Cameron, MetroSouth Medical Center; Candace Carr, CARR home-garden-holiday; Cathé Adamski, Flowers by Cathé; Amy Wondaal, Lost Treasures; Mike Mech, Bungalow Chef; Jacquelyn Callham, Great Lakes Bank; Toni Ebeling, First Midwest Bank; Bruce Bronson, E. B. Bronson & Co.; and Gary Rauch, Eisenhower High School. Not pictured: Cynthia Anderson, Moraine Valley Community College; Lynn Ebers, Beggars Pizza; Amit Patel, Jimmy John's; David Seaman, Pronger Smith Medical; Ray Thomas, Raven's Place and Margaret Tranchita, Modern Drop Forge. Photo by George Poulos & Associates.

Orland adopts a village-wide improvement program

by Jan Glaz

Recently, Orland Park Officials adopted a Façade Improvement Program. The new scope for the program is to improve the appearance of all commercial and landmark properties in the Village. Because of this, the program is renamed to "Appearance Improvement Grant" to accurately describe the program's intent, which is to improve the overall appearance of sites and buildings. The change in policy to a Village-wide program requires a review and revision of the existing program, which is specific to the 143rd Street corridor.

In 2012 the Village Board renewed the Façade Improvement Program and allocated $50,000 to it for FY2013. The Board also directed the program to be available Village-wide rather than be limited to 143rd Street. For the first time a façade improvement program will be available to all commercial properties in the Village. Previous programs were strictly limited to façade edifices and particular features (i.e. historic). The new grant program will address the whole experience of the commercial appearance from the public right-of-way. The new program is clarified as a grant and will focus primarily on commercial façade renovation.

It will also have a secondary focus of historic preservation assistance for the few landmark buildings in town. Additionally, the new program includes the ability to address landscape improvements as well, since landscaping is part of the appearance of a site/building.

Also approved, a Sales Tax Rebate Agreement Ordinance for Orland Park Motor Cars, Inc.: Back in November of 2012, the Village Board of Trustees had approved a Sales Tax Sharing Agreement with Mercedes Benz of Orland Park for the renovation and franchise expansions (Smart Car and Mercedes Benz Commercial Van) at the former BMW facility located at 8470 W. 159th Street. It should be noted; however, that at that time, the estimated costs for the furniture, fixtures and equipment (FF&E) was still unknown. These estimates have now been received and provided to the Village. When added to the total estimated cost, this increases the total maximum incentive to $574,424. The original maximum incentive, not including this line item, was $453,690. All other terms of the agreement are as previously approved by the Village Board of Trustees.

Restaurant news: An ordinance passed for an amended special use permit for Indra's Thai Restaurant, before the meeting adjourned. The amended special use permit allows for the operation a full service restaurant with patron seating, carry out and delivery. The property is located at 15880 South Wolf Road. The proposal is to operate the restaurant in an existing 2,200 square foot space of the approximately 18,000 square feet building at the County West Plaza Shopping Center, located on a 2.4-acre site and within 330 feet of residential property to the west.

Deadline Extended for Senior Property Tax Exemptions

Reminder to all seniors...

It's not too late to file for your Senior Tax Exemptions or Senior Tax Freeze.

Cook County Commissioner Joan Patricia Murphy wants to ensure that as many seniors as possible take advantage of the savings they are entitled to on their property tax bill. All seniors should apply for the Exemption which has no income requirements.

If residents have received the application already, make certain it has been mailed. Seniors who did not receive applications in the mail, may download a form at www.cookcountyassessor.com or visit your local township Assessors Office. Call 312-443-7550 and request a form to be mailed. Assessor Berrios extended the deadline for the Senior Citizen and Senior Freeze Exemptions until Wednesday, February 20th.

MetroSouth Medical Center names Evergreen Park resident employee of the year

MetroSouth Medical Center has named Ray Welcome of Evergreen Park as its 2012 Employee of the Year. This award is the highest honor bestowed on a hospital employee each year. Welcome was chosen from over 1,000 employees for this honor. In addition to special recognition, Welcome and a guest will receive an all-expense-paid, event-filled weekend at the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center, Nashville, Tennessee, this March.

"Health care requires a special blend of great people skills, tireless energy and the ability to work well under pressure," explains Welcome's supervisor Mike Baker, Manager, Public Safety and Patient Transportation. "People who work in health care share the common desire to help others and make a difference in people's lives. It's a pleasure to recognize Ray for his dedication to our patients, and to providing outstanding care."

Employees are nominated for the award by their hospital peers, based on their commitment to patient care, professionalism, and contributions on the job.

Welcome, who is a patient transporter and is lovingly referred to as "Ray the Man," has worked for MetroSouth Medical Center since 1983. In those 29 years, he has not been late or missed a day of work. In addition, he has consistently exemplified a commitment to the hospital, dedication to patients and excellence in customer service. Patients who come in contact with Ray appreciate his caring demeanor, great smile and warm, friendly personality. He is frequently heard saying, "If you need anything, call me."

Ray is also involved in his department's quality improvement program where he offers suggestions and tips to improve the department's performance and patient satisfaction. He is well respected by his fellow employees and by many throughout the hospital.

"Each of our employees has a specific role in the delivery of quality health care to the people who live and work in our community," said Dr. Enrique Beckmann. "Our success in meeting the needs of the patients we serve is dependent on the collective efforts of all employees. I salute Ray Welcome."

Moraine Valley trustee elected Chamber of Commerce president

Andrea Ramirez-Justin of Orland Hills, a member of the Moraine Valley Community College Board of Trustees, has been elected president of the Mokena Chamber of Commerce.

Ramirez-Justin, a vice president of the Old Plank Trail Community Bank in Mokena, was installed as the 2013-14 president at the 2013 Chamber Inaugural Fiesta Celebration.

Ramirez-Justin, who was appointed in August 2012 to the Moraine Valley board, says she is "so proud to be a part of Moraine. There's always a welcoming feeling. We have such a wonderful diversity of students. Everyone wants to help our students succeed. I know there will be challenges, but I'm not afraid to make those tough decisions if we need to."

In her current position with Old Plank Trail Community Bank, she manages governmental and public entity relationships with the bank, realizing a portfolio of over $50 million. She also manages business development and small business initiatives.

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Daley addresses Oak Lawn Board on changes to Southwest Highway and Central Avenue

by Matt Mayer

Cook County Board Commissioner John Daley addressed the village board at the Oak Lawn Board of Trustees meeting regarding reports that Cook County wasn't going to go forward with a 50 percent fund match to the village for the Southwest Highway signalization project. The reports are false. "The committee has been committed to the project from day one. We have been waiting to hear back from the village," said Daley.

The traffic along Central Avenue has increased significantly since the 1980's when the road project was designed. At that time a left turn lane was eliminated from the project. Trustee Alex Olejniczak (D-2) has been a proponent for a left turn lane for years. This is the only intersection without a left turn lane from 79th Street to 115th Street. St. Gerald School and Church are on the corner and Oak Lawn Community High School is two blocks away, said Olejniczak. This intersection has also been proven to be dangerous. A rental house on the northwest corner of the intersection has had several vehicles crash onto their lawn over the years. Some years ago a vehicle crashed through the living room picture window of the house.

Trustee Carol Quinlan (D-5) asked if it would be to late to continue the project if the vote was delayed since the funding of Build America Bonds decreased from $7 million to $1.2 million. No the project will go forward when the board approves it, said Daley. The board voted 3-2 to postpone the project until it could be discussed along with other village projects.

Daley concluded by thanking Mayor Dave Heilmann on the great work he is doing. "This is such a vibrant community that it's an honor to represent you at the County Board," Daley said.

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Senator Maggie Crotty selected as Oak Forest Fleadh family parade grand marshal

The Oak Forest-Crestwood Area Chamber of Commerce and the City of Oak Forest are pleased to announce that former state Senator Maggie Crotty of Oak Forest will serve as the grand marshal of the Oak Forest Fleadh family parade on Saturday, March 9. The parade steps off at 11 a.m. at 157th Street and Cicero Avenue.

"We are thrilled to honor a woman who has done so much for our community and the state of Illinois," said Chamber Executive Director Kimberly Malecky-Iles. "We wish her all the best in her future endeavors."

As grand marshal, Crotty and her family will lead more than 80 parade units, including pipe and drum bands, civic and community groups, schools and churches, and local businesses along Cicero Avenue. The Oak Forest Fleadh celebrates Irish culture and tradition as well as the people and businesses of Oak Forest.

Crotty ended her 16-year career as a state legislator last month. Before leaving office, she was instrumental in helping the City of Oak Forest secure funding for a new Metra train station.

Crotty began her legislative career as a state representative in 1996 and moved to the state Senate in 2002. She currently serves as Bremen Township supervisor.

22nd Annual Strong Children~Strong Communities conference

The 22nd Annual Strong Children~Strong Communities conference has an exciting array of current topics for parents, childcare providers and educators or anyone interested in making a positive difference in the lives of children. The event will be held on Saturday, March 2, 2013, 7:30 am to 3:00 pm at Prairie State College, 202 S. Halsted Street, Chicago Heights. This conference is hosted by Good Shepherd Center, a non-profit agency serving individuals with and without disabilities and their families since 1963.

This event is one of the largest bilingual conference in the Chicago area, featuring many individual workshops in both English and Spanish. Attendees can choose from a variety of individual workshops as well as a keynote speaker. Workshop topics include anger management for children, challenging behaviors, storytelling, siblings with Autism, health and diabetes, dual language learners, literacy, math, internet safety and more.

Dr. Benton Johnson II is the Keynote Speaker and will present "The Good Samaritan: Connecting with Children in Poverty." Dr. Johnson has an extensive background in counseling in community based settings with a focus on children. Many people today are faced with the challenges associated with children and families in everyday life. This workshop can help caregivers and teachers build a better future for children by understanding poverty in young children and the roadblocks caregivers/teachers face. Finally Dr. Johnson II will explore the dynamic keys to building success with children in poverty. He will share personal stories to help find the tools of connecting with children in poverty.

Last year more than 325 people attended the Strong Children~ Strong Communities Conference. This is a great place to showcase your business' services in the exhibit area for $125.00 a table, or $90 for non-profit organizations. Sponsorship opportunities are also available for as low as $250.00 as a tax deductible donation and sponsors receive publicity at the event and in all Good Shepherd Center publications. To register for both exhibits and workshop sponsors please go to www.gscenter.org or call June Fidanza at 708-335-0020 x 16 for exhibits and Cheryl Assise 708-335-0020 x 20 for sponsorships.

Registration to attend the conference is only $35.00 per person which includes a box lunch with a choice of turkey, ham and turkey or veggie wraps, a drink and chips. Pre-registration is required (no walk-ins accepted). Registration can be made on line at www.gscenter.org or by calling 708-335-0020 x 15. Early Intervention - trainings hours and CEU/CPDU credits are all available that day.

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Oak Lawn senior happenings

On Monday, February 25th at 10:00 Organist Dennis Colby will entertain. His fun filled, energetic PAT RACK and more show will take you back to the Sands Hotel in Las Vegas and those times created by Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and Sammy Davis, Jr. Refresments will be served at the conclusion of his program.

On Thursday, February 28, at 10:30 a.m. lunch is planned.

The sponsors of the lunch are Waterford Estates and Advancare Healthcare. Waterford provides Independent Living,. Independent PLUS and Assisted Living options to those ae 62+. Resident enjoy 12 beautiful acres, scenic views, lovely landscaping for those walk paths and a vibrant lifestyle that stimulates the mind, body and spirit.

Advancare Healthcare Services is a Medicare certified and Joint Commission accredited home health care agency that provides skilled nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, medical social workers and home health aides in the home setting.

The presentation begins at 10:30 a.m. followed by lunch and bingo. Tickets may be purchase for $4.00 at the Oak Lawn Senior Center, 5330 West 95 Street. For any further information you may call 708-499-0240.

OCS Volunteer Tax Program

OCS Volunteer Tax Program offers services full time in 2013. Room 110 at the Community Center has been turned into an office dedicated solely for the privacy of its clients. Convenient e-filing and direct deposits are available, since IRS is phasing out mail returns. Phone 708-422-8776 for an appointment.

Our counselors are volunteers and are available Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Assistance with circuit breaker, property tax exemption forms, and notary service is also available.

Bring last year's federal and state returns, bank statements, and all forms showing income, including social security, pension, dividends, interest and property tax bill. To better serve you, due to the volume of returns processed, no business or complicated returns are accepted.

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Village of Orland Park to host Annual Indoor Duathlon

Sportsplex offers winter weather competition.

Athletes of all skill levels are invited to participate in the Village of Orland Park Recreation Department's Annual Indoor Duathlon on Saturday, March 9. The competition will begin at 7:15 a.m. at the Village of Orland Park Sportsplex, 11351 West 159th Street, in Orland Park.

The 13-mile duathlon includes a 1.5-mile run, a 10-mile stationary bike ride, and ends with a second 1.5-mile run. Medals will be awarded to the first and second place finishers, both men and women in each age category. Each participant will receive a long sleeve t-shirt.

"The village's Indoor Duathlon is a great way to stay competitive and fit during the winter months," said Sportsplex Fitness Manager Deborah Geghen. "You don't have to lose that competitive spirit just because it's single digits outside," she added.

Pre-registration is required for the event with a cost of $20 for Sportsplex members, $25 for Village of Orland Park residents and $31 for non-residents.

"We've had people from all over the Chicago area and some from Michigan and Indiana come to Orland Park to compete in our duathlon," Geghen said. "One year, we had a group of Navy Seals from the Great Lakes Naval Base travel to Orland Park to compete. They were looking for something unusual to do indoors and Orland Park's duathlon was just right for them," she added.

Registration is available at the Recreation Administration Center, 14600 South Ravinia or at the village's Sportsplex, 11351 West 159th Street. For more information, call the Recreation Department at 708/645-PLAY.

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Jelly bean & coloring contests

Beginning Monday, March 4, stop by the Recreation Center to guess the number of jelly beans in the jar. The person coming closest to the actual number will win the jar and a basket filled with goodies. In case of a tie, a winner will be randomly chosen. And while you are here don't forget to pick up our Easter bunny coloring sheet! One winner will be selected from each of the following age groups: 2-5, 6-9, and 10-13 and will receive a basket of goodies. Jelly Bean guesses and completed coloring pages are due by 5:00 p.m. on Fri., March 22. Winners will be notified by phone on Tuesday, March 26.

For more information, call 708 671-3760 or view our Winter/Spring Brochure 2013, online at Palospark.org. To register online go to www.activenet15.active.com/palospark or drop by the Palos Park Recreation Department located at 8901 West 123rd Street, Palos Park.

Registration is now open

Registration is now open for the 2013-2014 Little Learners school year! 3 year old and 4 year old programs are available.

Our Little Learners Preschool program is a place where learning is made fun by incorporating it into music, movement and exercise. Our unique 'Color Me Healthy' program promotes exercise and healthy eating! We inspire the children to use their own creative expression through art, dance and conversation during circle time. Our teacher works closely with parents to ensure that each and every child reaps the benefits from our unique program. For more information call Lauren Marino at (708) 480-3056.

Letter to the Editor,

This is something that is very important to me. It has nothing to do with sales, please take a minute to read. I hope you can see the importance like I do!

It is another year that we have an opportunity to all help a wonderful organization known as the Garden Center. I would like to invite you, your friends, family, and acquaintances to a wonderful event coming up in April. The Garden Center, as many of you already know, is the facility that my handicap little brother Nicolas attends during the day. It is an absolute wonderful organization that gives individuals with develop mental disabilities the opportunity to reach their full potential.

A significant portion of the nation bas felt the effects of a stagnant economy. Some of us have lost jobs, others took pay cuts, etc. The Garden Center has had their fair share of struggles and misfortune in the last few years also. In these tough economic times, TGC has continued providing wonderful services, while suffering funding cuts from the state and federal government. On top of this, the building that TGC was renting for its increasing enrollment was broken into, the crooks stole everything, including computers, equipment, etc. and if that wasn't enough the perp's clogged the sinks and flooded the place!

In order to recoup their losses and continue providing, in my opinion, life's true charitable services, TGC has had to step up its game in the private fundraising arena. We will be hosting "The Potting Party." The Garden Center's annual fundraiser. The fundraiser is set to be held on April 5th at Bourbon Street. The event starts at 7pm and will go till midnight! We are going to have a live band (which a lot of you know as LAST CALL), a silent auction, live auction with artwork from the consumers of the Garden Center (which I am going to be the live auctioneer), a bean bag tournament(you can win money at), and a few other activities. You can pre-order tickets for a discounted price on TGC's website http://www.gardencenterservices.org/get-involved.html (Tickets are not yet available for purchase), or you can also purchase tickets at the door. I would recommend pre-purchasing online to save yourself some money, and that will also help me get an idea of how many to expect that night. **I need your help!** This year TGC is partnering with "Believe in Red," a Marist alumni group that a few of us have put together to put on community events to raise money for Marist and local charities. We are excited to help run the Potting Party, turn it into a fun, exciting desirable event and most importantly make it a success. Some of our roles and responsibilities include getting volunteers for the event, inviting our contacts, and most important gathering the items for the silent auction. We are looking for anything from gift certificates, sports tickets, autographed jerseys, memorabilia etc.

This is going to be a great event, and please trust me when I say this "the smiles on the faces of all the consumers of The Garden Center will be so worth it and keep you coming back." Life is stressful, life is hectic, life just never stops, but I swear to you that if you have are able to attend in April or just have the opportunity to visit TGC and spend some time with the consumers and witness their joy and happiness, life with instantly seem to be less stressful and hectic, when you see how happy these individuals are given what they have had to go through throughout their lives!

Jeremy T. Zientek, MBA

Southwest Community Concert Band concert

The Southwest Community Concert Band, directed by Ray Forlenza, presents two events: a Pops Concert and a Master Class for tuba and euphonium players.

The free Pops Concert will be held Sunday March 3, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. at the First Church of the Nazarene, 12725 South Bell Road, Lemont, Illinois 60439. During intermission, beverages and snacks can be purchased at the church's Clay Cup

The featured guest is Northern Illinois University Director and Yamaha Tuba Artist Dr. Thomas Bough. Dr. Bough will be soloing on "Believe Me, If All Those Endearing Young Charms". Tuba and euphonium Master Class participants will perform "Them Basses".

Selections also include music from "West Side Story", Broadway shows and "Lord of the Rings", John Williams' "The Cowboys", David Holsinger's "Scootin' on Hardrock", and many other enjoyable tunes.

Dr. Bough's Master Class is on Tuesday February 26th at 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at the church. The agenda includes: Breathing Gym, Twelve-Key Fluency, Low-Range Development, Lip Slurs and Scale Fluency. This class is open for tuba and euphonium players 7th grade through adult. The class participants will perform "Them Basses" at the concert. This is optional. On-line registration fee is $15.00. Walk in fee is $25.00. See the website for details. http://www.swcommunityband.com/tuba.html

The band is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council. The Southwest Community Concert Band was established in 1982 and celebrated their 30th anniversary last year. Rehearsals are 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Tuesdays at the First Church of the Nazarene, 12725 South Bell Road, Lemont, IL 60439. P.O Box 246, Lemont Illinois 60439-0246. Band voice mail (815) 773-4159. Website: www.swcommunityband.com E-mail info@swcommunityband.com

Blue Island special events

Eagle's Fish Fry Friday

Your choice fish, fried shrimp, fried chicken and spaghetti with meatballs. Call 708-388-9739 for to-go orders. On Fridays through April 5, 4 - 8 p.m. At the Eagles Hall, 2427 Grove Street, Blue Island. Call for more information.

St. Benedict Fish Fry

Delicious fish is served from 11am to 1pm for lunch and 4pm to7:30pm for dinner.

On Fridays, now thru March 22, 2013 at the St. Benedict Church, 2339 York Street, Blue Island. Everyone is welcome.

Green Thumb Thursdays

The City of Blue Island and the University of Illinois Extension Master Gardener Program offer monthly presentations about creating beautiful gardens to absorb rain water. This month's topic is native perennial plants.

Thursday, February 21, 2013 at 7 p.m., Admission is Free.

At the Evangelical Community Church Fellowship Hall, 2237 W. 120th Street, Blue Island, IL.

Black Culture Night

Neighborhood Watch Group #37 is holding their annual Black Culture Night, which includes presentations by the DuSable Museum and the Tuskegee Airmen. Admission is free and there are refreshments and door prizes.

On Friday, February 22, 6:30 p.m. At the City Hall East Annex, 2434 Vermont Street, Blue Island, IL.

Blue Cap Blackhawks Night

Join friends of Blue Cap for an exciting night of ice hockey.

On Saturday, February 22, 7 p.m., Admission is $20

Come to the Double Play, 13011 S. Western Ave. Blue Island, IL.

Green Drinks

Learn, meet people and have a drink. Topics include community planning, green infrastructure, sustainable development, the outdoors and more. Guest speaker is Steve Buchtel from Trails for Illinois. RSVP to Erika Hasle: ehasle@fieldmuseum.org. On Thursday, March 7, 6 p.m. at Rock Island Public House, 13328 Olde Western Ave. Blue Island.

Circus Boy

Bring the kids (although adults will laugh at his antics) for a great time! It's a fun way to spend an afternoon with your family. Tickets available at CARR home-garden-holiday

Saturday, March 9,at 2 p.m.

Veterans Memorial Middle School, 12300 S. Greenwood Ave, Blue Island, IL.

Southwest Symphony presents the music of Cole Porter

Enjoy favorites such as C'est Magnifique, I Get a Kick Out of You, I Love Paris and more. Blue Island's Nancy DiNovo and Tom Hawley are members of the orchestra. Call 708-802-0686.

Sunday, March 10, 4 p.m., $5/$15/$20

Ozinga Chapel, Trinity Christian College, 6601 W. College Dr., Palos Heights

Palos Park Public Library upcoming events

Children ages 5 and up are invited to play Bingo and win prizes at the Palos Park Public Library on Thursday, Feb. 28 at 4:30 pm.

Parents or caregivers must accompany children during the session.

Children and their families are invited to learn about the Palos Park based volunteer animal rescue organization and their different animal friends as Animals for Awareness visits the Palos Park Public Library on Saturday, March 2 at 11 am.

Children will meet Skeeter the baby alligator, Baby the Parrot, and many more furry and not so furry friends and learn how to care and protect animals. Call the library to register.

The library is located at 12330 Forest Glen Blvd., Palos Park, IL.

Please call the library for more information or to register at 708-448-1530.

Yearly special Book Sale

Pick up some great reading material, at bargain prices. We are having our Yearly Book Sale, during the regular Library hours. Starts Saturday, February 23, 2013 through Saturday, March 2, 2013.

Stop in at the Justice Public Library at 7641 Oak Grove Ave., Justice. Or call 708-496-1790. Our website is www.justicepubliclibrary.com.

Volunteer Choir Leader needed for Orland Township Songbirds

The Orland Township Senior Services department is in need of a volunteer piano professional/singer to lead its senior choir, which is open to all singing levels.

The choir will meet once a week for 90 minutes in the township's Activity Center at 14807 S. Ravinia Avenue. Casual performances at various community events and locations may be scheduled at a later date.

The choir is currently filled with anxious members, who are ready to sing, and a piano has been graciously donated to the township for the group's use; however, a leader is still greatly needed.

Leading the Orland Township Senior Choir would be a great activity for a retired music professional who is interested in sharing his or her talents with a willing and ready group of singers.

To volunteer for the choir leader position, please contact Marie Ryan at (708) 403-4222 or at marier@orlandtwp.org.

Career paths

Join staff from Moraine Valley Community College on Thursday, March 14th at 6:30 pm at the Midlothian Public Library for "Career Paths And Coffee: First Step to a New Future". Are you and adult thinking about your future? Join us for a cup of coffee at an information session to learn more about: Preparing for high-demand jobs; exploring a new career; earning a college degree and more! Register online at www.midlothianlibrary.org or call the Reference Desk at 708-535-2027.

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The SOUTHWEST SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Celebrate Cole Porter with the Southwest Symphony Orchestra!

Begin the Beguine, Night and Day, I Love Paris, Wunderbar, So in Love, Too Darn Hot, Another Opening Another Show

Featuring *The Trinity Christian College Concert Choir* and soloists Kathryn Kamp, Cassie Makeeff, Branden James, and Robert Heitzinger

A Cole Porter Celebration!

Sunday, March 10, 2013, at 4:00 p.m.
Ozinga Auditorium of Trinity Christian College
6601 W. College Dr., Palos Heights 60463

Adults $20-$25
Seniors (65+) $15
Students $5
Children 12 and under free!

Purchase tickets at the door; by calling 708-802-0686; online at www.southwestsymphony.com or at the door.

This concert is partially sponsored by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council.

Big Brother Sets an Example

by Annette Dixon

No, we are not referring to big government, but a youth with a big heart.

Mathew Ryl-Kuchar, 16 in March, grandson of Nelida Ryl-Kuchar, Oak Lawn resident, is the brother and mentor of Mark, Luke and John.

Like most boys, Mathew started out playing Teeball, Baseball, Soccer and Basketball. With almost six years age difference, Mathew can really be looked up to, especially since he had five years experience in various sports. His interest in sports did not wein for his father Eric, still drives him to practice and the games.

What is unique about this story is the triplets, Mark, Luke and John. Not only are they triplets, but these boys are named after the apostles. I just like saying all four of the boys names. They have the names of the four gospels, Mathew, Mark, Luke and John. You couldn't ask for anything better than this.

Now the story continues because Kathy, the boys mother, told me that each boy has to try out every year for the Traveling Team. Now what are the odds the triplets would make the team each year.

Hopefully, pretty good odds, since they have been involved in sports since they were three.

John

Luke

Mark

They, too, started with Teeball, just like Mathew, so big brother is there each year for his triplets.

Kathy, now a single mother, says between work and handling household duties, she enjoys the mentoring Mathew gives the young boys. Eric and Kathy both find time to see that the boys stay busy doing what they enjoy, even if it means driving in separate locations to see Mathew play soccer or basketball and the triplets in their games. The triplets, at the present time are point guard and forward positions and are numbers 42, 43, 44.

The Traveling Team is called Lincoln Way Xplosion and open tryouts are for the Manhattan, New Lenox, Mokena, and Frankfort Suburbs, with Dan Herlihy as Coach.

In the summer, the triplets will be 10 years old and they will be on the same soccer team as goalies.

They are really active in sports, for the team has a total of 12 league games, in which the team won 11 of the games. They are also 5 out of 9 of their tournament games, and there are 5 travel games. So you can see that Kathy and Eric are continuously driving and watching their sons enjoy sports. It also was mentioned that all the boys are doing well in school academically, so big brother must be setting a good example.

Pay It Forward at Orland Township

The Orland Township Youth & Family Services department is hosting "Is It Time to Pay It Forward?" on Wednesday, March 6 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at 14807 S. Ravinia Avenue.

The event will include dinner and a screening of the 2000 movie "Pay It Forward", which highlights the idea that small acts of kindness can fuel a feeling of goodwill. Following the movie, a collaborative discussion will take place on the message of the movie, including the notion that thoughtful acts can provide various benefits, such as new social connections, opportunities for relaxation and the chance to begin a new chapter in life after the loss of a loved one.

For additional information or to register, please contact Gina at (708) 403-4222.

Moraine Valley hosting auditions for 'Angels in America'

Moraine Valley Community College is hosting open auditions for the Academic Theater Department's spring production of "Angels in America: A Gay Fantasia on National Themes, Part One: Millennium Approaches" by Tony Kushner. Auditions will be Monday, February 25, from 6 to 9 p.m., in the John and Angeline Oremus Theater, in the Fine and Performing Arts Center, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills. Callbacks will be on Wednesday, February 27.

For the audition prepare a short monologue. Cold readings also will be provided. All ethnicities are strongly encouraged to audition. Actors must read the script prior to being cast as it contains adult themes, mature content and strong language. Students may get college credit if they are cast.

Sign up to audition in advance in F150, Fine and Performing Arts Center, or contact Dr. Craig Rosen, associate professor of Theater and coordinator of the Academic Theater Program, at (708) 974-5432 or rosen@morainevalley.edu.

"Angels in America: A Gay Fantasia on National Themes, Part One: Millennium Approaches" is a Pulitzer Prize-winning play set in the 1980s against a backdrop of greed, conservatism, sexual politics, religious identity, and the discovery of AIDS. A love story and political drama, the story centers around a group of separate, but inextricably connected individuals whose relationships are disintegrating as the AIDS crisis starts.

The Moraine Valley performances will be on the weekends during April 26 to May 5. For more information, contact Dr. Rosen.

Maria High School varsity basketball players celebrate the final game played in the Mystic gym.

Maria hosts final basketball game

Another chapter at Maria High School has closed.

Recently the Maria Mystics played their final home basketball game. The Mystics celebrated both senior night and a long-held, heated rivalry when they faced off against Queen of Peace. Although they lost 43 to 22, second year head coach Brian Burns felt it was one of the team's most competitive efforts. He credited all the girls with playing enthusiastically and keeping the energy level high, and he recognized experienced players for keeping the team mentally in the game.

Burns acknowledged that his mostly inexperienced team faced many obstacles. Recognizing that, he kept team goals simple: improve skills and play with heart. In that regard, the season was an unqualified success. He is proud of his team for their discipline and courage and for playing every minute of every game. Because of their attitudes, the Mystics were able to walk off the court with their heads held high, no matter the final score.

Jaquine Spears, the lone senior on the squad, was recognized for her commitment to the team over the years with a houquet of flowers and a hug from her parents. Coach Burns appreciated Jaquine's contributions and commented, "She played for us last year and was an invaluable veteran when it came to teaching the sport to our very young team."

With the closing of Maria High School, effective June 30, 2013, this basketball game marked the last time the gymnasium would see action. To mark the occasion, Maria alumnae from the past four decades returned to remember their own playing days as well as to honor the final group of young women who proudly wore the Maria blue and gold in the Mystic gym.

Senior Citizen Special

Every weekday is Senior Discount Day!

Senior Discount Rate - $25.00 per hour!*

3 Hour Minimum Required - $90.00 Value

*Every day, Seniors receive a 15% discount off regular hourly rate of $30.00 per hour.
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De La Salle faculty member Dan Dowling, Eric Enriquez. De La Salle – Institute Campus for Young Men prineipal Jim Krygier

Jessiea Hermle, De La Salle – Lourdes Hall Campus for Young Women principal Diane Brown

Meteors of the Month at De La Salle's Institute Campus named

De La Salle Institute proudly announees that Erie Enriquez (Areher Heights) has been ehosen the Meteor of the Month for January at De La Salle's Institute Campus for Young Men and Jessiea Hermle (Canaryville) has been seleeted the Meteor of the Month for January at its Institute Campus for Young Women.

In a joint initiative between the school's Campus Ministry and its City of De La Salle student government, nominations are received from faculty and staff highlighting students who are motivated and enthusiastie about the school's Lasallian mission inside and outside of the classroom.

Specifieally, nominees are students who stand out among their peers by having demonstrated one or more of the Lasallian Principles of Faith, Community Serviee, Social Justice and/or Association.

Enriquez holds a 4.225 grade-point average and is ranked No. 17 in the 152-member Class of 2013 at De La Salle's Institute Campus for Young Men.

Along with his sueeess in the elassroom, Enriquez also is involved in Lasallian Youth and the Environmental Club, as well as the Boxing Club and tennis team.

Hermle excels in the elassroom at De La Salle, maintaining a 3.500 grade-point average and ranking No. 48 in the 113-member Class of 2014 at De La Salle's Lourdes Hall Campus for Young Women.

In addition to her aeademie sueeess, Hermle is also a member of the girls volleyball team and the Science Cluh.

De La Salle eongratulates Enriquez and Hermle on all of his aehievements and wishes him every future sueeess.

Key Lime Cove

Hey are you looking for a break from the winter blues? Grab your friends and head with the Palos Park Recreation to the tropies for a day of splashtastie fun! Key Lime Cove's indoor water park features tube and body slides, a hurrieane vortex slide, lazy river, wave pool, interaetive play areas as well as a huge areade and several gift shops. Bring money for lockers and eonessions. Event will take plaee on March 3 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. For more information, eall 708-671-3760 or view our Winter/Spring Brochure 2013, online at Palospark.org. To register online go to www.activenet15.active.com/palospark or drop by the Palos Park Recreation Department located at 8901 West 123rd Street, Palos Park.

Green Hills Public Library upcoming events

Friends of the Library Candy Fundraiser

The Friends of the Green Hills Library is hosting a fundraiser for the entire month of February. We need your support! Stop in and pick up a Fannie May eandy bar for just $1.00. There are a variety of flavors. Purchases ean be made in the Friends Bookstore on the ground level or at the Cireulation Desk on the 2nd floor.

Panthers and Beyond

Dr. Erik S. Gellman will present five myths of late 1960s Chicago history. This talk addresses touchstones like the eampaign of Martin Luther King Jr., the Democratie Convention of 1968, and the assassination of Fred Hampton as points of departure to understand the eontext of social change and its repression during this tumultuous era. Wednesday, February 20th at 7:00pm.

Teen Pizza & Movie Night, "The Avengers"

Enjoy free pizza and pop while we show the movie "The Avengers" at the Library. We will give one lucky winner a eopy of the movie we are showing.

Thursday, February 21st at 6:00pm.

Family Movie Time, "Puss in Boots"

Come with the family to enjoy the movie "Puss in Boots". Each person gets popeorn and lemonade! All ages are welcome. Friday, February 22nd at 4:00pm.

How the Beatles Re-Imagined Rock "n" Roll: 1967-1970

This presentation shows the Beatles broadening their artistry into uncharted waters. Enjoy performanee and promo elips, augmented by rare photos and unreleased audio of the group at work. Tuesday, February 26th at 7:00pm.

Painting Owl Craft

Stop by and paint a craft for you to take home and enjoy! Use the owl as a bank. Ages 5 and up! Registration is limited to 32. Thursday, February 28th at 6:00pm.

Things to do in Evergreen Park

Income Tax services

Free to Evergreen Park seniors and disabled adults.

Begins in February, M-F 9:30am-4pm, includes eireuit breaker and tax freeze assistanee. Call (708) 422-8776 to sehedule an appointment.

Reereation Department

Iee Rink is open!

Please eall the Ree Department for updated skating hours. (708) 229-3373

Kids fitness elasses

Open to kindergarteners through 3rd Grade (boys and girls). Exercises and games to burn off some extra energy, while having fun. Classes take plaee on Wednesdays at 4:00pm at the Activity Center (3220 W. 98th Street), beginning February 6th. $45 Fee. Instructor is Jen Harmon. Register at the Reereation Department.

Presehool registration ongoing, 2013-2014 school year

Children who attend must be 3-years old and fully toilet-trained by the first day of school during the week of August 26, 2013. To register, you must provide the child's birth eertifieate, proof of residenev and a $35 non-refundable deposit (which will be applied to the first pre-school payment).

The Drop-In Center is open Tuesday through Friday, 3pm-5pm! A variety of aetivities, games and social aetivities are available for youths from 5th grade through High School Call the Evergreen Park Youth Commission at (708) 229-3377 for additional information and opportunities. This is a safe, fun place to be!

Most Holy Redeemer Dash for mega eash raffle

Drawing is Saturday, March 16 at MHR St. Patriek's Day Party.

Grand Prize, $50,000, Second Prize, $10,000.

Tiekets ean be purchased after all weekend masses, from the school or rectory office.

Caring for Quigleys

Saturday, March 16, 2013 at 3pm at Bourbon Street. Cost is $25 in advance for full buffet, wine, soft drinks. Raffles, silent auction.

Tribute to Jimmy Quigley and fundraiser for his family. http://caringforquigleys.wordpress.com

Save your box tops!

For Southeast Elementary School. Box top labels from many participating products (see www.btfe.eom) are worth a dime a piece for partieipating schools.

Coach Nate Grosse, head Varsity soccer coach, Taylour Estes, Jim Litrenta, Kyle Dalton, and Coach Harold Blackmon, head Varsity football coach.

St. Laurence student athletes to play in college

Several St. Laurence High School student athletes have committed to play a sport in college. Jim Litrenta (from Orland Park) signed to play football at University of South Dakota, a Division I school. Kyle Dalton (from Mokena) will be playing football at Elmhurst College. Taylour Estes (from Hickory Hills) will be playing soccer at Carroll University.

Receive interviewing tips at Moraine Valley's Mock Interview Day

Job-seekers can improve their interviewing skills by attending Moraine Valley Community College's spring Mock Interview Day on Wednesday, February 20, from 2 to 5 p.m. The free event will be in the Moraine Business and Conference Center (Building M), on campus, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills. Community members, students and graduates are encouraged to participate in a formal, 30-minute mock interview with an actual employer who will provide valuable tips to help them ace their next interview. Business attire and two resumes are required for entry.

Participants must preregister, and space is limited. Call the Job Resource Center at (708) 974-5737 to schedule a mock interview or to participate as an employer. For more information, visit morainevalley.edu/jrc.

St. Laurence High School Mothers' Club

All Dabber Super Bingo

Total Payout $2250

Sunday, March 3, 2013

St. Laurence High School
5556 W. 77th Street, Burbank (77th & Central Ave)
Entrance and Parking at the North end of the building
Tickets $20.00 - $1 Door Card

Doors Open 12:00 noon, Games begin at 2:00pm

Pull Tabs * Great Food * Bake Sale * Free Coffee
Plenty of parking

For tickets or more details, call Mothers' Club
708-458-6800 ext 411 or email momsclub@stlaurence.com
Mark your payment envelope: Mothers Club Super Bingo
Limited tickets available - Cash only at the door

Cardinal Joseph Bernardin Cheerleaders win 6th Consecutive State Championship

The Cardinal Joseph Bernardin Varsity cheerleaders achieved their lofty goal this season with a commanding first place victory at the IESA State Cheerleading Competition that was held in Peoria. The girls not only took the crown for their Medium division – but they also achieved the highest score of entire competition that consisted of over 80 teams from all around the state of Illinois. This victory is the 6th consecutive State Title for the Junior High team.

Their secret? Discipline, hard work and incredible team spirit has allowed this team to carry on the strong cheerleading tradition that has been established at the Cardinal Joseph Bernardin Catholic School in Orland Hills.

"It is amazing to see the dedication that each and every girl on this team puts forth", said Varsity Coach Peggy Jensen. "I am humbled by their spirit and I have enjoyed every moment of this season".

The girls began their season this summer with skills camps and choreography. They continued to practice and compete through the fall and their hard work paid off with First Place Victories at each of their cheer competitions including: Wilmington High School Competition, Lincoln-Way North Invitational, University of St. Francis Cheer Competition, Joliet West Cheer Invitational and Oak Forest High School Bengals Invitational.

The CJB cheerleaders are an elite competitive squad, but they all work hard to foster both school and charitable spirit. This energetic group of girls cheer at school basketball games and also take part in the CJB annual uniform resale event and assist at the school's Open House. They completed a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society and run a food drive to benefit the local food pantries in the spring.

The CJB cheerleaders were invited to perform at the IHSA Cheer Competition. This honor was given to the 3 top scoring Junior High Schools in the State of Illinois. The girls will then conclude their season with a National competition that takes place in Louisville, KY on March 23.

The team includes girls in grades sixth, seventh and eighth grade and is coached by Peggy Jensen and MaryAnn Cox.

Oak Lawn Library announcements

Registration for Youth Services Programs

Registration for Spring 2013 Youth Services programs at the Oak Lawn Public Library, began Saturday, and continues through Sunday, March 10, or until full. Each child's library card must be presented at the time of registration. Registration must be made in person, except for STEM classes. Additional information regarding activities and events is listed in a program booklet that you may pick up at the Library or view ut www.oaklawnlibrary.org.

"Coffee And..." Recipe Tasting

Registration for a "Coffee And..." recipe tasting hosted by the Oak Lawn Public Library, is currently underway.

Join Chef Kate Bradley on Thursday, Feb. 21 for a review of recipes for mint chocolate shorthread, cappuccino muffins, no-guilt spice cake and loaded oatmeal cookies.

Advance registration and payment of a $5 fee are required. Food samples will be provided. Sign up at the library's Reception Booth. Limit 60 participants.

AARP Driver Safety Program

Registration is currently underway for an AARP Driver Safety Program to be hosted by the Oak Lawn Public Library, on Thursday and Friday, March 7 and 8 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The AARP Driver Safety Program is designed to meet the needs of drivers age 50 and up. Many insurance companies offer reduced rates to drivers who receive a certificate of completion. Patrons must register in person at the library's Reception Booth. The fee is $12 for AARP members and $14 for non-members. Registrants must present a current AARP card at enrollment to receive the discount. Limit: 30 per series.

"The Middlesteins" Next Day/Night Reads Title at Oak Lawn Library

"The Middlesteins" by Jami Attenberg is the February selection for Day & Night Reads - the Oak Lawn Library's bimonthly book group for adults. Attenberg's novel centers on Edie and Richard Middlestein who share a solid family life together in the suburbs of Chicago – two children, a nice house, ample employment and generous friends. But things are splintering apart, for one reason it seems: Edie's fixated on food, thinking about it, eating it, and if she doesn't stop, she won't have much longer to live.

The discussion will be held at the Library, on Wednesday, Feb. 27 at 2 & 7 p.m.

Oak Lawn Public Library is located at 9427 S. Raymond Avenue.

Friends Request Book Sale Donations

Donate your "gently used" books, magazines, CDs and videos to the Friends of the Oak Lawn Library Ongoing Book Sale at the Oak Lawn Public Library. Due to space limitations, the Friends will not accept Readers Digest Condensed Books, encyclopedias and older text books.

The donation drop-off area is near the library's Cook Avenue entrance. Interested parties may fill out a short form at the Reception Booth to receive a tax letter by mail that acknowledges their donation.

View a complete schedule of programs at www.oaklawnlibrary.org. For additional information, call (708) 422-4990.

Marist signs four softball players

Marist High School announces four softball players who recently signed their National Letter of Intent to continue their athletic careers.

They are front (L-R) Haley Richy – St. Ambrose, Erica Nagel, Loyola University, Kaitlin Kenny, St. Ambrose, and Lauren Holt, Robert Morris University.

Back Row – Larry Tucker, Principal, Denise Bromberek, Head Coach, Bob Lim, Athletic Director.

Congratulations to the athletes and their families.

Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo runs until March 17

by Annette Dixon

One of the outstanding plays this year is written by Rajiv Joseph who wrote an outstanding story demonstrating the horrors of war, and how the Tiger from Baghad Zoo interacts in bringing the audience together to feel the presence of the action in Iraq.

This story is an adult theme story and a good strong one to see. Two U.S. Marines and an Iraqi translator tell the story with impacted words and action to make this an adult topic.

The cast features Troy West, JJ Phillips, Walter Owen Briggs, Anish Jethmalani, Kareem Bandealy, Amy J Carle, and Atra Asdou. They all did a terrific job expressing to us the severity of war and its greed and betrayal between individuals.

Lookingglass Theatre Company, recipient of the 2011 Regional Theatre Tony Award, was founded in 1988 by eight Northwestern University Students. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the company's season. Lookingglass Theatre Company continues to expand its artistic, financial and institutional boundaries under the guidance of Artistic Director Andrew White, Executive Director Rachel Kraft, Producing Artistic Director Philip R. Smith. Artistic Director of New Work Heidi Stillman and whole ensemble of people.

To buy tickets on-line lookingglasstheatre.org or phone 312-337-0665.

Target, Saturday Matinees offer a limited number of buy one, get one free tickets which are available to all 3:00 pm Saturday matinees. Lookingglass is located at Water Tower Works, 821 N. Michigan Ave.

American Legends until February 24 at the Auditorium Theatre

by Annette Dixon

This is a must see Ballet for many reasons. The dancers were outstanding, the music by Scott Speck was excellent and precise for the dancers. I couldn't have asked for a better night of listening to Nine Sinatra songs and watching the perfection of the dancers.

In 1965 Ms.Twyla Tharp began the dance company for which she made 80 pieces including Nine Sinatra Songs. In 1988 Twyla Tharp Dance merged with American Ballet Theatre where Ms. Tharp created more than a dozen works.

There also were works of the Greats Jerome Rohbins. Choreographer, for Interplay. Gerald Arpino. Sea Shadow, and Stanton Welch. Son of Chamber Symphony.

Tickets are $31 to $152, at the box office or call Ticketmaster at (800) 982-2787, or on-line at www.ticketmaster.com.

Julius Caesar as you have never seen

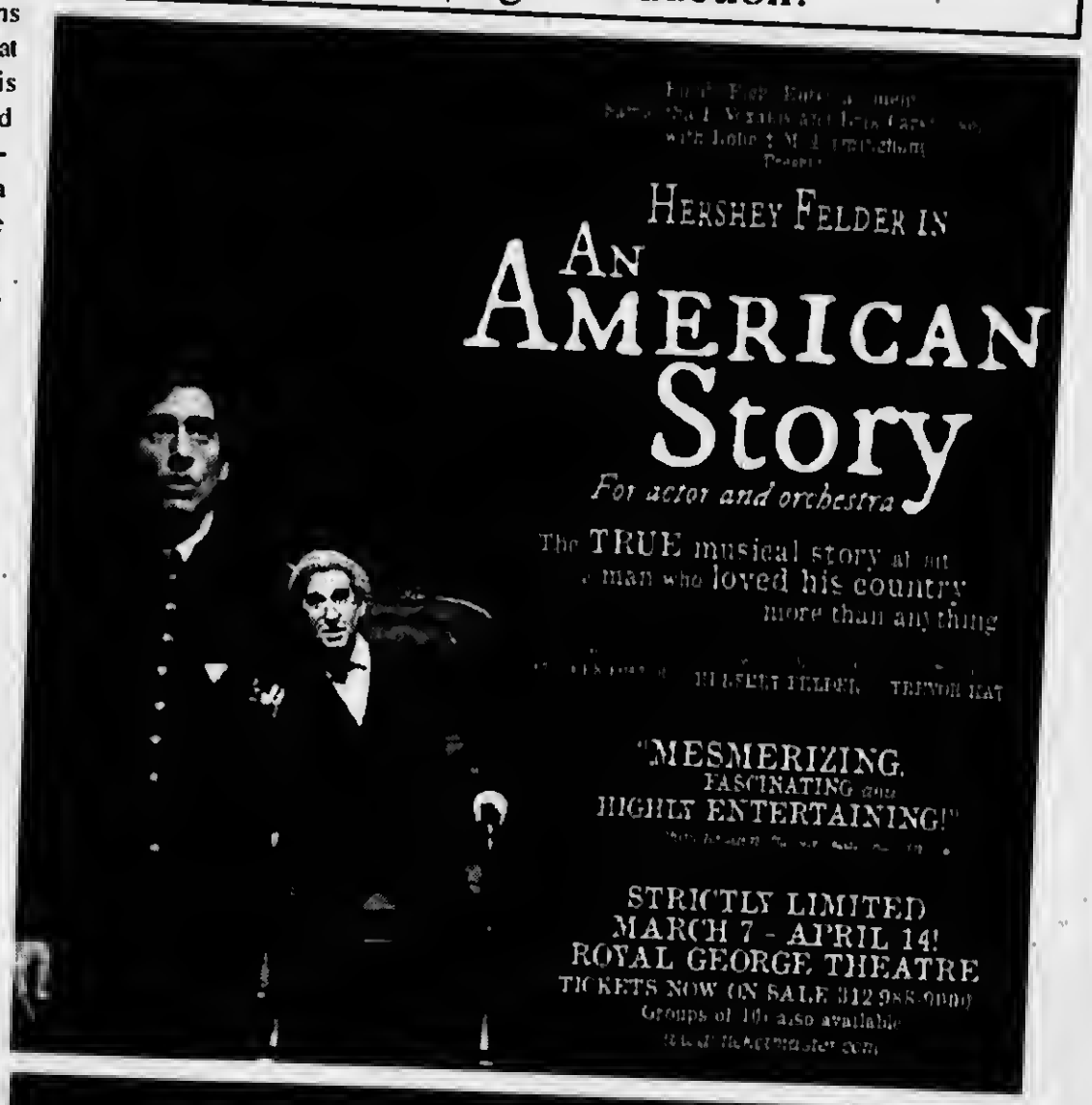
by Annette Dixon

British Director Jonathan Munby makes his Chicago Debut with a smash hit. Munby envisions Julius Caesar through the lens of contemporary culture which excites the audience. "This play opens up so many of the fears that the populace has in this moment of history, said Munby. "The fear of losing democracy, the fear of losing a voice, the fear of what lied ahead. It's really cautionary tale for our time."

The title role of Julius Caesar is performed by David Darlow, and making their debuts are Dion Johnstone as Marc Anthony, Jason Kolotouros as Caius Cassius and John Light as Marcus Brutus. These fine actors are in film, TV, and in theatre throughout Europe and Canada.

Chicago Shakespeare Theater's Julius Caesar runs through March 24, 2013 and tickets are available. CST offers $20 tickets for patrons under 35. All patrons receive a 40% discount on guaranteed parking in Navy Pier garages. Additionally, Navy Pier is offering $10 parking after 5:00 p.m. through March 17, 2013. For more information contact Chicago Shakespeare Theater's Box Office at 312-595-5600.

This is a great time of the year to enjoy a Chicago Production!



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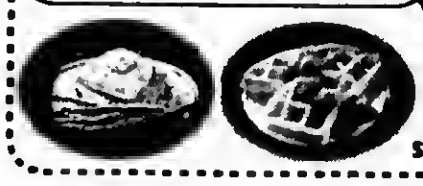

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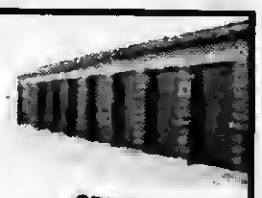

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Italian-Yes!

The Italian American Women wrote their third book. A compilation of narrative stories from ten authors who love their Italian culture. They wrote out of love and also and gave up their private family recipes.

The Italian American Women's Club was started to keep the Italian culture alive and to inform the Italian American Youth about their heritage. What the women have accomplished by writing about their Italian families, hopefully would remain in the libraries for future references of the Italian Culture.

Italian-Yes is in the bookstores, on the internet, and some are sold by members. If you are interested in reading this book, I assure you it is in large print, it has loads of pictures and many authentic Italian family recipes.

This book is easy to hold for it is a soft cover book and can also he bought as an ebook. The proceeds of this book is for IAWC Scholarship funding.

You can purchase the book at Barnes and Noble, online at their website or amazon.com. The publishing company is Xlibris or you can call Sister Mary Ventura, to purchase a book at 708-857-2005.

A simple guide to deductions

(NAPSA)-The average taxpayer doesn't need to understand all the intricacies of tax law, but it pays to know a few basics. For example, taxpayers often know deductions save money on tax returns but may not be able to tell the difference among the types of deductions.

The Deal_On Deductions

Deductions lower the amount of taxable income. You have the option of claiming the standard deduction or itemizing deductions and you should select whichever results in a higher amount. Nearly two-thirds of taxpayers claim the standard deduction, according to TaxACT spokesperson Jessi Dolmage.

Standard Deductions

Standard deduction amounts are adjusted for inflation each year, vary by filing status and are higher for those 65 and older or legally blind. For 2012 federal tax returns due April 15, 2013, standard deduction amounts are:

• $5,950 for single or married filing separately

• $11,900 for married filing jointly and qualifying widows(ers)

• $8,700 for head of household.

Itemized Deductions

When you itemize deductions, you list them all separately and only certain spending qualifies. Itemized deductions may include mortgage interest, state and local taxes, charitable gifts, unreimbursed employee expenses, uninsured casualty or theft losses and miscellaneous. Some miscellaneous deductions must exceed 2 percent of your adjusted gross income and unreimbursed medical and dental costs must exceed 7.5 percent of it.

Itemized deductions are reported on Schedule A and can only be filed with long Form 1040, while taxpayers claiming the standard deduction can file Form 1040, 1040A or 1040EZ.

If a married couple files separately and one spouse claims the standard deduction, the other must also claim the standard deduction. Conversely, if one spouse itemizes deductions, the other must also itemize.

Some deductions can be claimed regardless of whether you itemize or claim the standard deduction. Often referred to as "above-the-line" deductions because they are deducted from gross income, these include traditional IRA contributions, student loan interest, alimony payments, moving expenses and a portion of your self-employment tax (if applicable).

Dolmage suggests using an online or downloadable tax preparation solution to eliminate the guesswork involved with calculating whether the standard deduction or itemizing is more beneficial. "The program asks simple questions to help you determine if you qualify for the various deductions and other tax breaks. It then does the math for you and lets you know if you benefit more from the standard deduction or by itemizing."

File Free

To help make calculating your deductions easy, TaxACT, the nation's second-largest digital tax preparation provider, offers free federal tax returns. TaxACT Free Federal Edition provides step-by-step guidance for simple and complicated tax situations, plus all e-fileable forms, including those necessary for itemizing.

You can find more information about standard and itemized deductions in IRS Publication 501 at www.irs.gov. To prepare, print and e-file your federal return free with TaxACT Free Federal Edition, go to www.taxact.com.

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To advertise in Crafters Corner, or Crafters Wanted, call Linda for more information at 708-425-1910.

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Diabetes and eye health a closer look

(NAPSA)-Those with diabetes should take a good look at their eye health.

That's the word from the American Diabetes Association. It reports that nearly 26 million people in the United States have diabetes and 12,000-24,000 people lose their sight because of the disease each year.

The American Optometric Association (AOA) encourages Americans with diabetes to schedule annual, dilated eye examinations to help detect and prevent eye and vision disorders that could lead to blindness.

Diabetic Eye Disorders

People with diabetes are at a significantly higher risk for developing eye diseases including glaucoma, cataracts and diabetic retinopathy, one of the most serious sight-threatening complications of diabetes. Consider the following:

• Those with diabetes are 40 percent more likely to suffer from glaucoma than people without diabetes.

• Those with diabetes are 60 percent more likely to develop cataracts. People with diabetes also tend to get them at a younger age and have them progress faster. With cataracts, the eye's clear lens clouds, blocking light and interfering with normal vision.

People with diabetes are at a significantly higher risk for developing a number of eye diseases including glaucoma, cataracts and diabetic retinopathy.

• Diabetic retinopathy is a condition that causes progressive damage to the retina, the light-sensitive lining at the back of the eye. Damage to the tiny blood vessels that nourish the retina causes swelling of retinal tissue and clouding of vision. If left untreated, diabetic retinopathy can cause blindness.

Since early warning signs of diabetic eye and vision disorders are often subtle or undetected, the AOA recommends that people-especially African Americans and Hispanics, who have a higher risk of developing diabetes-look for initial signs and contact a doctor of optometry if any of the following symptoms are present: sudden blurred or double vision, trouble reading or focusing on near-work, eye pain or pressure, a noticeable aura or dark ring around lights or illuminated objects, visible dark spots in vision or images of flashing lights.

Eye Health Tips

In addition to having yearly, comprehensive eye exams, the AOA offers the following tips to help prevent or slow the development of diabetic eye diseases:

• Take prescribed medication as directed.

• Keep glycohemoglobin test results ("A1c" or average blood sugar level) consistently under 7 percent.

• Stick to a healthy diet that includes omega-3s, fresh fruits and vegetables.

• Exercise regularly.

• Control high blood pressure.

• Avoid alcohol and smoking.

For more information on eye health, visit www.aoa.org.

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Helping people move from benefits to work

(NAPSA)-There's good news for the millions of Americans who receive disability benefits from Social Security and want to work. There's a free, voluntary program that just may be their ticket to employment.

The program, called Ticket to Work, makes it possible for those who receive Supplemental Security Income-also known as SSI-or Social Security Disability to begin a job while maintaining access to some of their benefits.

In the case of Terry Anderson, it was more than a ticket to work. It allowed her to take control of her life. Terry went on Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) after being diagnosed with cancer and losing her job due to downsizing. As a result, she took an extended period of time away from work.

A year later, with her cancer in remission, Terry learned about the Iowa Development Workforce Center, an American Job Center that's one of over 1,000 disability employment-focused organizations that provide free employment-related support services to Social Security beneficiaries through the Ticket to Work program. She decided to see what her local American Job Center had to offer.

Fortunately, the staff was able to provide her with expert advice about disability benefits and employment. For example, she learned about special Social Security rules called "Work Incentives," which are intended to help people who receive disability benefits transition to the workforce and become financially self-sufficient.

She also found out that recipients of SSDI can keep their Medicare coverage and their cash benefits while gaining work experience during the Trial Work Period. Terry also learned that thanks to another Work Incentive called "Expedited Reinstatement," she might be able to restart her Social Security benefits without a new application, if she has to stop work because of her disability within five years.

Eventually, Terry found work as a loan-servicing specialist and now works a second job at Walmart, where she trains cashiers and enjoys interacting with customers.

Grateful that Social Security helped her "... get through the storm," Terry acknowledged she was happy to leave benefits behind.

To learn more about the program, call the Ticket to Work Help Line at (866) 968-7842 (V); (866) 833-2967 (TTY/TDD) or visit www.socialsecurity.gov/work.

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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 39 | Number 17 | March 5, 2013

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

Hickory Hills Police Chief reports on 2012

by Jan Glaz

Police Chief Alan T. Vodicka distributed the 2012 Annual Police Report at the Hickory Hills City Council Meeting held on February 28th. In the report Vodicka stated that short term goals focused on training needs and individual assessments designed to standardize career paths for all department personnel and that a new Community Policing Division was created which continues to impact the quality and type of services provided by the agency. Police Chief Vodicka referenced the enactment of a Chronic Nuisance Property Ordinance in the fall of 2012; the department now has the enforcement means necessary to effectively deal with repetitive problems that occur on rental property throughout the City. The ordinance makes the owner, property manager, and/or occupant responsible for all criminal and quasi-criminal activities occurring on those properties. And an important statement is made that the support of the general public is considered to be crucial to the overall effectiveness of the police services provided to the community. Vodicka also touched on 2013. The Department will focus on improving services to all those experiencing special needs. Police Chief Vodicka stated that the Department could not perform at the level at which it does without the dedicated support of the members of our City Council.

Alderman Waight announced four new business licenses: The Flame Restaurant at 7825 West 95th Street; Stella's a restaurant locating at the old Quiznos location 8067 West 95th Street; Supreme Tax Service located at 8859 S. Roberts Road; and Clovers Garden Gas Depot at 8800 W. 87th Street.

Meeting End Notes: Mayor Mike Howley proclaimed April to be the National Fair Housing Month and City Attorney Mike Cainkar introduced a motion that carried for a Resolution for the 2013 Community Block Grant Program. City Treasurer Dan Schramm commented, "By controlling expenditures and increasing revenues, everything's looking positive in our budget."

STL Comedy Club to host improv show

The Comedy Club of St. Laurence High School in Burbank will be hosting its fourth annual Comedy Show in the school's cafeteria on Friday evening, March 15. The hilarious show begins at the unusual starting time of 6:31 pm. The cost of a ticket at the door is just $5.00. The popular Comedy Club has been an organized activity at St. Laurence for the past 13 years. The club strives to mutually entertain its members in various aspects of comedy. One aspect, improvisational humor, will be the focus of the night's activities.

To purchase a ticket before the night of the show, or for more information, please contact Mr. Ed Kozak, club moderator, at 708-458-6900, ext. 244, or ekozak@stlaurence.com.

Mother McAuley invites you to journey back in time for an evening of song, dance, and food at the Madrigal Feast.

Mother McAuley's music program presents the Madrigal Feast

The Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School Music Program will present a Madrigal Feast on Thursday, March 21 at 7:00 p.m. Seating begins at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $20 per person and include dinner, desert, beverages and entertainment.

A Madrigal Feast is a night of merriment, song and fun set in the Middle Ages, complete with a Queen, court jesters, and other characters from the era. A meal is served in between masques, or skits, that are performed by the small cast, as well as traditional songs that herald the beginning of each course. Included in the menu are a salad, entrée, delicious desert, and wassail punch, a traditional drink of apple cider and cinnamon. The evening ends with a concert by Mother McAuley's Advanced Chorus, made up of junior and seniors students, and the A Cappella Choir.

The cast for the Madrigal Feast consists of both Mother McAuley theatre students and boys from neighboring high schools, as well as McAuley faculty member Miss Marge Mazzola, who plays the Queen. The Jesters are played by juniors Alix Solis (Beverly) and Stephanie Simon (Mt. Greenwood), the Lady High Chamberlain is played by senior Lindsey Gleffe (Chicago), the Princess is played by senior Shana Pembroke (Oak Lawn). Lady Catherine is played by senior Amanda McGathey (Beverly). Lady Gwendolyn is played by senior Matty Jo Ruff (Evergreen Park), Morgana the Sorceress is played by junior Amanda Donohoe (Mt. Greenwood), the Lord High Chamberlain is played by Br. Rice student Jordan Jedry, the Prince is played by Br. Rice student Xavier Roe, Sir Guy is played by Marist student Mike Keough, and Sir Cad is played by Br. Rice student Nick Bila.

To purchase tickets, please visit mothermeauley.org and download the order form. All reservations are due on March 8.

Officials cite opportunities to bolster Justice business community

by Jan Glaz

On February 25th at the Village of Justice President and Board of Trustees Meeting Mayor Kris Wasowicz and the Board of Trustees cited new plans in which they could aid the business community. Trustee Ed Rusch Jr. offered and idea involving coupons similar to Valu-Pak for Justice Businesses to participate in as this would be beneficial. Rusch plans to present the idea at a future meeting once calls are made to establish feasibility and to discover if the dollar amount is reasonable and within the village budget. Mayor Wasowicz replied that he was approached with an offer to put up an informational sign on 83rd and Court similar to the sign on 91st and Harlem listing only businesses in the industrial zone. The village plans to explore this idea as to cost and the amount of businesses interested in the idea. The Mayor added, "We could also use banners and that would be a nice way to inform people and help the businesses."

It was previously reported that the village continues to work on a LUST Grant that would allow for remediation of the underground tanks at the old Anthony Oil property on 86th Avenue and Archer and the straightening out of the intersection at 86th and Archer. In 1986, Congress created the Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) Trust Fund to address releases from federally regulated underground storage tanks (USTs). The village is currently negotiating with the bank to gain ownership of the old gas station property at 84th Place and 88th Avenue in order to embark on another LUST Program.

Meeting End Notes: The Zoning and Planning Commission plans to hold a Public Hearing on March 18th for the purpose of reviewing a petition to revise and create village code addressing hotel and motel use in the Village of Justice, and to waive all fees and charges normally associated with said position. Also, Trustee Sue Small presented a motion that carried to donate $100 to the Argo Band for the fundraiser being held March 10, 2013.

Village View

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 5 | March 5, 2013

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Second grade artists Jane Harvey and Justin Jomon create paint splatter artwork at Center School.

District 135 art students showcased in local art show

The artwork of Orland School District students will be on display at the Orland Park Public Library from March 4-31, 2013. The artwork from grade 1-8 students include a variety of mediums including pencil drawings, watercolor paintings, clay sculpture and recycled material designs. Each year, the nine District 135 Art educators work with the Library in creating the display as a way to celebrate National Youth Art Month. Center School Art teacher Nancy Heuser notes, "The Art Show is a wonderful forum to showcase the many talents of our students in addition to gaining awareness about the importance of fine arts in school. We enjoy the opportunity to share the work of our students with the Orland Park community."

The Orland Park Public Library is open Monday-Friday from 9am-9pm, Saturday 9am-5pm, and Sunday from 1pm-5pm. The Library is located at 14921 Ravinia Avenue in Orland Park and can be reached at 708-428-5100.

Tinley Park recognizes a special commission for elected officials

by Jan Glaz

The Board of Trustees agreed to consider the establishment of commissioners for a Tinley Park Commission to study mandatory term limits for elected officials at the Village of Tinley Park Board of Trustees Meeting held on February 19th. The creation of the commission is in response to a referendum that appeared on the November 6th, 2012 general election ballot seeking to pass an ordinance imposing term limits on all elected officials. This referendum passed with more than 65 percent of residents voting in favor of it. It was announced that how to implement and enforce the term limits will he determined hy an independent commission comprised of seven members, including a Commission Chair. Mayor Edward J. Zabrocki recommended the following commissioners: Justice Kent Slater (Commission Chair); Dr. Vita Meyer; David Ribbens; Neil Finnerty; Reverend Mark Timmer; John Perry and Blue Island Mayor Don Peloquin. The commission is charged with independent data collection, research and the presentation of a report on the pros and cons of terms limits, to be delivered to the Village Board within 180 days of the commission's first meeting. "We have been reaching out to professionals inside the village and outside to bring together a combination of people whose experienee and accomplishments distinguish them and make them ideal to arrive at an objective analysis of a vexing but important village issue," Mayor Zabrocki said.

Other Important Meeting News: Tinley Park-Park District is awarded State Accreditation. The Illinois Association of Park Districts and the Illinois Park and Recreation Association recognized the Tinley Park-Park District as an Illinois Distinguished Accredited Agency for 2013-2018 at their annual conference in January. This is tbe highest accreditation achievement possible for a park district.

Awards were presented to businesses that received 100% on their Health Inspection Reports in the past year 2012; these businesses received the 100% Health Inspection reports at least three out of the last four times: 4K's Asian Mart, 9416 179th Street; 7- Eleven, 16658 S. Oak Park Avenue; Aldi's, 16150 Harlem Avenue; Arby's, 17900 LaGrange Road; Creative Cakes, 16649 Oak Park Avenue, Greco's Nuts & Candy, 7950 167th Street; Isabella's Restaurant, 17211 Oak Park Avenue; Lou Malnati's Pizzeria, 9501 West 171st Street; McDonald's, 15900 S. Harlem Avenue; Rubino's, 16635 S. Oak Park Avenue; and Subway, 17217 Oak Park Avenue.

Orland implements a strategic management plan

by Jan Glaz

Orland Park entered into a professional service agreement with SmithBucklin Consulting Services on February 18th at the Village of Orland Park Board of Trustees Meeting as part of the Village's effort to launch an organization-wide performance management program. This plan would create or affirm a vision for the community; set direction and priorities for the Village over the next 3-5 years; and establish a framework for implementation of a system of evaluating how the first two items are being achieved: A performance management program.

SmithBucklin's proposal outlined the scope of services and the plan of work. The proposed fee is $8,250. The actual strategic planning would comprise advance surveys of trustees, key village staff, and other community leaders as well as a strategic planning workshop. Mr. Mark Thorsby of SmithBucklin Consulting Services has previously assisted the village board with coaching and governance matters. Mr. Thorsby and his firm have knowledge and familiarity with the village and village board including extensive experience in facilitating these types of plans and workshops and offer a reasonable price. The approved strategic planning workshop will be scheduled for the spring of 2013. The professional services agreement with SmithBucklin Consulting Services is approved in an amount not to exceed $8,250 for professional services.

Other Newsworthy Approvals: Before the meeting adjourned the Board of Trustees approved retaining Rydin Decal for the printing of the 2013-2015 vehicle stickers. Rydin delivers excellent customer service and a high quality product. They quoted a price of $7,303.47 plus shipping for the printing of the 2013-2015 vehicle stickers, the sticker design is being revised and the quoted price includes printing 53,310 vehicle stickers. There is an approved budget line item included in the FY2013 budget in the amount of $8.658.00 for this purchase. Rydin Decal is approved for the printing of the 2013-2015 vehicle stickers at a cost not to exceed $7,303.47 plus shipping. Also newsworthy: A contract approval for the group American English, a popular local group that has been a big draw at the Taste of Orland for the last several years. The village will hire the group, American English, to close out the entertainment at Taste of Orland Park 2013 on Sunday, August 4 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Cost of the performance is $5,000.00.

Epidemic laid to rest in Oak Forest

by Jan Glaz

The Emerald Ash Borer Beetle epidemic is laid to rest in Oak Forest. City Administrator Troy Ishler announced at the City of Oak Forest City Council Meeting, February 26th, that the final ash tree infested with the Emerald Ash Borer was removed from the parkway that morning. Ten remaining trees are being watched as they are showing minimal signs of infestation but are not scheduled for removal. Over the past two years 1,849 trees were eliminated. The city will now concentrate on stump removal and replanting. Money is available for this project stemming from a grant. Ishler personally thanked the Public Works Department for an outstanding job and commented that they stepped up above and beyond of what they normally do. "As of today we are officially done removing ash trees from our parkways," said Ishler.

City Administrator Ishler provided details following a motion to approve a resolution amending the Construction Agreement with Baxter & Woodman Engineering for work on the Waverly Avenue Culvert. Ishler informed the city council that all the work is done through grants but that due to delays in the project the engineer had to perform additional duties beyond the contract and they are asking for additional hours. The city council voted in favor of amending the contract.

An issue of Batting Cages appeared on the meeting agenda and before the meeting adjourned officials agreed to authorize an agreement stating that the Oak Forest Park District could operate batting cages in a section of the Oak Forest Community Center for one year. City Clerk Scott Burkhardt said that the park districts use of the facility would be at no cost to the city except heat and that the use will be in the area of girls' softball but, Clerk Burkhardt added, "If some other group wants to use it, so be it."

Village View

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SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 14 | Number 5 | March 5, 2013

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Developer outlines a mixed-use development project

by Matt Mayer

Mike Coogan of Palos Heights based Brigid Capital LLC addressed the city council at the Feb 19 Palos Heights City Council meeting regarding proposed plans for the former iconic 50 year old Ben Franklin Dime Store which has been vacant since 2009. He didn't offer specific details other than saying the plans are what they have been. "We want to tear down the old building and construct a new mixed-use building which will attract restaurants and retailers. I want to get through the committee process before commenting on any specifics", said Coogan.

The city council chamber was overflowing with residents at the Feb. 25 public hearing regarding the proposed construction of the three-story mix-use development. Mike Coogan delivered specifics regarding the proposed project as he promised to do at the Feb 19 city council meeting. He said there would be retail and dining space on the ground floor, offices on the second floor and six one bedroom apartments to be marketed to professionals on the third floor. He plans to line up tenants for the five retail stores for the proposed 33,000 square foot development. some of which he said could be a Corner Bakery, a children's boutique clothing store, a Jamba Juice and a possible State Farm agent" but that could all change, said Coogan.

According to the company Website www.brigidcapital.com architectural renderings and floor plans are in process and will be posted on the Website upon completion. The company anticipates occupancy in the spring or summer of 2014. However before construction may commence, he needs to obtain approval from the planned unit development (PUD) commission after he is granted rezoning from the zoning commission.

Other highlights: Mayor Robert Straz presented Police Chief George L. Yott Jr. with an recognition award for his 40 years of service with the police department. A motion by Straz to proclaim Feb. 28 as Police Chief George L. Yott Jr. day in the City of Palos Heights in honor of his 40 years of dedicated service with the police department was also approved.

An ordinance amending the rates charged for water as approved by the city council on Feb. 5 was approved. A request to authorize the Director of Public Works to prepare and advertise for bids for the Harlem Avenue landscaping project was approved as well as a payment of $28,676.42 to the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) for reimbursed construction costs for the Harlem Avenue lighting project.

Marrs-Meyer American Legion upcoming events

Corned Beef & Cabbage dinner

Saturday, March 9th from 1pm to 7pm. $11 Adults, $5 Kids (4-10): Dinners between 1pm-3pm $10 Adults, $4 kids.

Advance Tickets on Sale thru Friday March 8th and get a $1 off.

Friday Fish Fry

Now threw March 29. 4pm to 8pm.

Tickets on sale at bar daily or in dining room Fridays between 4-8pm. $9 Adults, $5 kids under 10. Shrimp/Cod/Catfish/Chicken Strips. Includes soup, salad, bread, potatoes, coffee, tea or soda.

Marrs-Meyer American Legion Post 991, 11001 S. Depot Ave., Worth, IL.

For more information or for tickets call 708-448-7006.

Palos Park egg hunt

Hop on over to the Palos Park Recreation Center for our Egg Hunt on Sunday, March 24 from 1:00-2:30 p.m. for ages 0-8. Children will have the opportunity to collect eggs filled with treats and find marked eggs for special prizes. The day will also include a variety of fun crafts, and a visit with the Easter Bunny arriving via Fire Engine. Refreshments will be served in the lower level. The egg hunt will be held on the Village Green, weather permitting. If inclement weather, the egg hunt will be held in the gym. Don't forget to bring a basket to collect eggs! Call or stop by for more details at 8901 West 123rd Street, Palos Park, IL , phone 708-671-3760.

Spring Fishing Classic at Lake Katherine

Fisherman are invited to attend Lake Katherine's Spring Fishing Classic on Saturday, April 13 from 7am to Noon.

Attendees can fish the entire shoreline of Lake Katherine, home to muskie, largemouth bass, walleye, channel catfish, and bluegill, plus a variety of other fish and wildlife. Cash prizes and trophies will be awarded, and the event includes a noon lunch; 125 tickets will be sold.

Tickets are $100 and includes a barbeque at Noon. Visit www.lakekatherine.org or call 708-361-1873 or complete registration form and further information.

Spring Fun Run in Palos Park

Get those running and walking shoes ready for the Spring Fun Run on Saturday, April 6, 2013! Join us for our annual race that will begin and finish at the Palos Park Recreation Center. This USATF certified course is entirely on paved streets which wind through Palos Park's scenic residential neighborhoods.

Runners and walkers are encouraged to participate. Trophies will be awarded three deep in each age division for the 5-K and 1-Mile event. The 1-Mile ages 14 and under will begin at 8:00 a.m. The 5-K will begin at 9:00 a.m.

Please call the Recreation Department at 708-671-3760 for more information.

(Right) Dr. Sylvia Jenkins, Moraine Valley president, accepts a $10,000 donation from Beverly Opelka, who is establishing the Bill Opelka Scholarship at the college.

Moraine Valley announces Bill Opelka Scholarship

Beverly Opelka, of Palos Park, established the Bill Opelka Scholarship at Moraine Valley Community College when she made a $10,000 donation to the college recently. Bill Opelka is a former board member of the Moraine Valley Foundation.

The scholarship is to be awarded to a current or incoming full-time student who is involved in one of the following areas: Forensics, Percussion Ensemble, Student Government, the student newspaper, The Glacier, or has 22 hours of documented community service during the previous semester. The recipient also must have a 3.0 grade point average, demonstrate financial need and submit a 500-word essay that expresses the motivation behind completing an education.

Dr. Sylvia Jenkins, college president, accepted the check on behalf of the college. For more information on the Moraine Valley Foundation, visit the website at morainevalley.edu/foundation.

Village View

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B-MAC EDITION

Volume 7 | Number 5 | March 5, 2013

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

New video equipment installed at Alsip Village properties

by Jan Glaz

On February 18th at the Village of Alsip Board of Trustees Meeting Trustee Ryan announced that the much anticipated new audio video equipment has been installed at the Clubhouses of the Heritage I and Heritage II Senior Complexes. Quinn made a request for residents to learn how to operate the equipment and noted that a formal request will be posted on the Heritage Bulletin Boards. There are two video setups at the Heritage Locations. "It's beautiful equipment and it looks great... I was in to see it at Heritage II over the weekend," said Quinn. Mayor Kitching suggested a pizza party to teach residents how to operate the services. The Mayor added, "Because it is not just audio video it's also wireless computers... whatever residents want to operate it's in there for them with no additional charge."

Mayor Patrick Kitching brought attention to the ongoing coyote problem plaguing Alsip and other surrounding communities and asked the police department and board of trustees for solutions. The increase in the number of coyotes is a danger to the public. Kitching is concerned because the coyotes are now traveling in large packs following the deer population as part of the coyote food chain. The Mayor said there are incidents reported of coyote's following children around. Although coyotes are considered a protected species the village will be proactive in researching avenues of how to address this public safety issue.

End Note Approvals: A motion carried for a request to purchase ammunition totaling $9,127.00; and the council voted in favor of the Alsip Chamber of Commerce placing plastic ground signs around the Village of Alsip and erecting a portable sign in front of the Chamber and Prairie Jr. High School announcing the 10th Annual Community Expo on Saturday, March 2, 2013, at the Prairie Jr. High School and to waive any associated fees. The signs would be in place from February 25th until a few days after the event.

Blue Island First responder awards

First responder awards went to Police Officer Lasalle King (left) for exceptional service in D.A.R.E./G.R.E.A.T. and community service. 911 Director Paulette Szczecina was honored for exceptional leadership in the 911 Center and Detective Jason Slattery (purple shirt) received an Exceptional Service to Senior Citizen Program award at the Chamber Installation Dinner recently at Beggars Pizza. Also pictured are Deputy Chief Michael Cornell and Chief Phillip Contreras. Photo by George Poulos & Associates.

Midlothian acquires Chrysler property

by Jan Glaz

Mayor Terrence Stephens announced on February 27th at the Village of Midlothian Board of Trustees Meeting that the village, using bond money, purchased the Chrysler property located at 147th and Cicero Avenue for $950,000; the property is valued at $4.2 million. The village dissolved the prior TIF and is in the process of reestablishing a new TIF district (tax incentive financing) due to the drop in property values. Stephens commented that the increment for the new TIF will be higher. In addition, the TIF allows for a municipal facility and a water tower will be built on the Chrysler property site. Money is available in the water bond to pay for the water tower, and this amount would then be reimbursed through the TIF from the purchase of the Chrysler property. An ordinance connected with the Chrysler property authorizing disposal of personal property owned by the Village of Midlothian met with approval. Items left on the property will sold. Stephens said, "We've discovered quite a bit of furniture."

End Notes: Before the meeting adjourned Mayor Stephens announced that the Krispy Kreme property on Cicero Avenue has been sold to Hardee's Restaurant but they have not started work on the building as yet. Items receiving a positive vote by the Board of Trustees: Approval to remove a stop sign at 146th and Trumbull and install a sign at 146th and Homan; approval of an invoice for On the Level Installations Inc. in the amount of $9,766.00; and an authorization for the Mayor to send a letter to the Fire and Police Commission requesting that an offer of conditional employment be sent to the next eligible firefighter applicant.

Crestwood Police achieve top standing in Illinois

by Jan Glaz

A Proclamation was presented at the Village of Crestwood Board of Trustees Meeting on February 22nd, attested by Crestwood Village Clerk Nancy Benedetto and signed by Mayor Robert Stranczek, recognizing the outstanding achievement of the Crestwood Police Department's Law Enforcement Torch Run, led by Detective Sergeant Chris Soderlund. In 2012 the Police Department raised $50,441.17 ranking them #1 in the State of Illinois as the Top Fundraising Department for the Special Olympics. The Police participated in two Dunkin Donuts "Cop on Top" fundraisers, the local Polar Plunge Event and "Spare Change for Real Change" a Paper Shredding Fundraiser. The Special Olympics recognized the Crestwood Police Department as an Illinois Department Flame of Hope recipient! The large Flame of Hope Trophy was displayed at the Board of Trustees Meetings.

Village Clerk Nancy Benedetto was directed by the Board of Trustees to solicit for a loan for a State Purchase Fire Department shift command vehicle, 2013 Ford Expedition 4 x 4 (suv), in the amount of $28,720.00, for a term of 3 years. A motion passed to direct the Village Attorney to prepare a Special Use Ordinance for Ingalls Memorial Hospital for medical offices on the property commonly known as 4752-4650 Cal-Sag Road, and an Ordinance Amending the Liquor Control Act of the Crestwood Village Code to allow the sale of beer and wine for "Penny's Place" to be located at 4837 Cal Sag Road.

Before the Meeting adjourned Bonds & Oaths were accepted for the appointments of: Timothy A. Green; Jacob Howard; Nicole Passaglia; Matthew Paterkiewicz; Arthur Roman; and Matthew Zylius to the Police Department, also Rick Sorley to the Fire Department.

Blue Island events

Green Drinks

Thursday, March 7, 6 p.m. at Rock Island Public House, 13328 Olde Western Ave. Blue Island. Learn, meet people and have a drink. Topics include community planning, green infrastructure, sustainable development, the outdoors and more. Guest speaker is Steve Buchtel from Trails for Illinois. RSVP to Erika Hasle: ehasle@fieldmuseum.org.

"Phoenix Lights" UFO mystery

Tuesday, March 12, 7:00 p.m. at Blue Island Public Library, 2433 York St., 708-388-1078 x30, free, tickets required.

On March 13, 1997 unusual aerial objects and lights were seen in the skies over a 300 mile stretch of Arizona, one of the most controversial mass UFO sightings in recent history. UFO researcher Sam Maranto will explore the mystery.

St. Patrick's Day musical celebration

Thursday, March 14, 1:00 p.m. at Salvation Army Center, 2900 W. 127th St., free.

Enjoy world-class Celtic harpist Aislinn, and one of Chicago's most popular Irish bands, Three Men in Kilts, for an afternoon of Irish music. Lunch begins at 11:00. Call 708-388-5735 for reservations.

Wesoly Lud Polish Dance Troup

Tuesday, March 19, 7:30 p.m. at Christ Memorial Church, 2440 York St., free, tickets required.

Celebrate St. Joseph and Casimir Pulaski Days with the internationally famous Wesoly Lud Polish Dance Troup. Tickets are required and may be obtained at the Library's main desk, 2433 York St. Call 708-388-1078 x30.

Eagle's Fish Fry Friday

Fridays through April 5, 4 - 8 p.m. at Eagles Hall, 2427 Grove St.

Your choice fish, fried shrimp, fried chicken and spaghetti with meatballs. Call 708-388-9739 for to-go orders.

St. Benedict Fish Fry

Fridays through March 22 at St. Benedict Church, 2339 York St.

Delicious fish is served from 11 - 1 for lunch and 4 - 7:30 for dinner.

Kitching Action Party push for transparency and government reform

Speaking to voters in a packed room recently, Mayor Kitching highlighted his past record of transparency and government accountability. Mayor Kitching made the audio of Village Board meetings available to Alsip residents on the Village website beginning last summer.

"The Action Party has worked to make Alsip government more transparent and accountable to its people." he said. "We need to make sure that Alsip taxpayers are getting the most efficient services for their money. Keeping government open to the public is critical in ensuring residents know their elected officials are working hard for them. I look forward to working with Clerk Venhuizen and the Village Board to improve government accountability."

Kitching was flanked by Trustee candidates Kevin Michaels and Lynn Dwyer, who are drafting a motion to publish the content of proposed Village ordinances online. "The fact is, businesses are more likely to want to come to Alsip, create jobs and contribute to our community if they know more about how our government works with commerce" Dwyer said.

Under Michaels and Dwyer's proposal, all ordinances proposed by Village Trustees would have to be posted online for the public to see. "We propose this ordinance with the expectation that upon its passage, residents will get a clear opportunity to review an ordinance and voice their questions, comments and concerns before their Trustees on the Board. That is the way government ought to work" Michaels said. Mayor Kitching is running with Michaels and Dwyer, as well as Trustee John Shapiro and Clerk Deborah Venhuizen. Kitching, Venhuizen and Shapiro have all endorsed Michaels's and Dwyer's propsosal. The election is April 9th. Early voting runs from March 25th until April 6th.

Rep. Lipinski announces $224,007 grant for Bedford Park Fire Department

U.S. Rep. Dan Lipinski (IL-3) announced today that the Bedford Park Fire Department has received a $224,007 grant from the Department of Homeland Security to purchase new equipment to assist firefighters responding to fires and incidents involving hazardous materials. The grant will allow the department to acquire 44 self-contained breathing apparatus, including facemasks for every member of the department, spare air tanks and two additional special rescue kits that supply breathing air to trapped firefighters.

"Our first responders play a critical role in keeping our communities safe. Providing them with the equipment they need to do their jobs is one of my highest priorities," Rep. Lipinski said. "I'm proud to announce this grant that will improve safety at the Bedford Park Fire Department and better serve the residents and businesses of Bedford Park."

The grant is awarded through the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency's Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program. In the 2012 fiscal year, the program will award approximately $337.5 million to fire departments and EMS organizations nationwide to enhance their response capabilities and to more effectively protect the health and safety of the public and emergency response personnel.

"We appreciate Rep. Lipinski's assistance with this grant that will allow us to upgrade equipment vital to the safety of the men and women of the Bedford Park Fire Department," said Bedford Park Mayor David Brady. "The addition of the new self-contained breathing appuratus will not only help protect our firefighters, but it will ensure that our residents continue to receive the quality service they expect from their fire department."

For more information on the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program, visit www.fema.gov/welcome-assistance-firefighters-grant-program.

Hometown news

Army National Guard Pvt. Candace C. Potter has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

During the nine weeks of training, the soldier studied the Army mission, history, tradition and core values, physical fitness, and received instruction and practice in basic combat skills, military weapons, chemical warfare and bayonet training, drill und ceremony, marching, rifle marksmanship, armed and unarmed combat, map reading, field tactics, military courtesy, military justice system, basic first aid, foot marches, and field training exercises.

She is the daughter of Elizabeth and Garry Potter of West 95th Street, Oak Lawn.

Potter graduated in 1995 from Plainfield High School, and received a bachelor's degree in 2001 from the University of St. Francis, Joliet.

M. Maggie Crotty heads Bremen Tax Freeze Party slate

Longtime State Legislator M. Maggie Crotty heads up the newly launched Bremen Tax Freeze Party, a slate of candidates pledged to holding the line on township government costs.

Crotty, who retired this year from her Illinois State Senate post, served a total of 16 years in the Illinois State Legislature as a representative and senator. She currently is Bremen Township supervisor and seeks re-election to that post April 9 with the new Bremen Tax Freeze Party.

"At a time when government faces declining revenues and many Americans continue to struggle financially, local government must do the responsible thing and rein in costs," Crotty said. "The Bremen Tax Freeze Party represents the only candidates willing to make these tough choices, continuing vital services for Bremen Township residents while pledging to freeze the township levy for the next four years if elected."

Crotty said that in her many years in the state legislature she often faced difficult financial choices, and believes that kind of experience is critical to keeping local government functioning. She said she is proud to stand for election with like-minded Bremen Township residents, a group of candidates that has pledged they will not seek nor accept pensions for their service on the Bremen Board.

Also on the Bremen Tax Freeze Party slate with Crotty are incumbent Township Trustee John D. Lord, who seeks election to the township clerk position, and incumbent Township Trustee Kathryn Straniero. Also on the slate are Assessor candidate Willie A. Jones; Highway Commissioner candidate John P. Flaherty; and Trustee candidates Keith Gomillia, Norman F. Pestlin and Larry G. Sargis. These candidates represent many geographic areas of Bremen Township.

More information is available at www.brementaxfreezeparty.com

Help improve the 95th Street Corridor

The Village of Oak Lawn is looking for your input to help us improve the function and appearance of the 95th Street Corridor.

Made possible through funding by the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP).The Village is working with Teska Associates to identify opportunities for planning improvements along the Corridor. Improvements in the study may include new shops and dining, safer pedestrian crossings, bike routes and amenities, landscaping and community signage. Please take 10 minutes to complete the survey and be sure to include your email address at the end of the survey if you would like to continue to be involved with planning for the future of 95th Street. The survey will be open until April 8, 2013. For more information contact Josh Jones by phone at 708-499-7055, email to jsjones@oaklawn-il.gov, or at Village Hall, 9446 S. Raymond Avenue, Oak Lawn, IL 60453.

Survey address: www.surveymonkey.com/s/oaklawnplanning

Also, be sure to visit the project website and comment map which is awaiting your input. The website will be updated with public meeting dates, events, and documents for your review.

Website address: http://oaklawn95thstreetcorridorplan.wordpress.com/

Public Input Meeting

There will be a public input meeting to discuss the renovation of Kasey Meadow Park. The park district will be applying for an Open Space, Land Acquisition, & Development Grant and would like to hear what the community thinks about the park. The park district is planning on renovating Kasey Meadow Park, including the playgrounds and splash pad, and would like to hear what you like and dislike about a proposed concept. Also, the district is thinking about adding more amenities to the park, and would like some feedback on what customers would like to see at the park. The meeting will take place on Monday, March 11, at 6:00 to 6:45 p.m., prior to the monthly board meeting at the Cynthia Neal Center, 8047 W. 91st Pl., Hickory Hills, IL 60457. Children are welcome.

For more information about special events and programming, please call 708-598-1233 or visit www.hhparkdistrict.org.

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We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

Double Nickel Plus Chorus

March is Music Involvement Month; however, The Double Nickel Plus Chorus. an OCS Program, meets at the Community Center, 3450 W. 97th St., Evergreen Park, every Wednesday at 9:30 am. in Room 111. If you are an Evergreen Park Senior. love music and would like to sing in the chorus.please come and join in. Newcomers are always welcome. For further information, phone· 708-422-8776.

Children egg hunt

The Oak Forest Park District, 15601 Central Ave. is offering an Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 23rd at the Central Park Pavilion. Meet 15 minutes before your designated hunt time. No registration necessary. Children may find a maximum of 6 eggs. Bring your camera and come see the Easter Bunny. Ages 2 and under 12:30pm. 3 yrs old 1:00pm. 4-5 years old 1:30pm and grades 1 to 3 2:00pm. For more info, call Kevin at (708)-687-7270 x117.

Check us out online at www.oakforestparks.org

Flashlight egg hunt and bowling fun for adults

Adults 21 and older are invited to Tinley Bowl on Friday March 22. 2013 for an eggciting night of looking for plastic eggs in the dark with a flashlight. bowling. and pizza. Proceeds from the event benefit The Cancer Support Center.

Sponsored in part by Polar Heating and Air of Orland Park, the egg hunt will take place in the beer garden of Tinley Bowl, located at 7601 W. 183rd Street. Tinley Park. Check-in begins at 8pm, and the egg hunt starts at 8:30pm sharp. Over 1200 plastic eggs will be scattered and hidden throughout the beer garden for guests to hunt for with their flashlight. Eggs will contain candy. raffle tickets, and a few surprises. Guests must bring their own flashlights from home, and egg collecting bags will be provided free of charge. Guests are encouraged to dress for any inclement weather.

Cost of the event is $25 per person. and includes the egg hunt. 2 hours of unlimited pizza. pop, and bowling. All proceeds benefit The Cancer Support Center, a local organization providing programs at no charge for individuals and families affected by cancer living in the Chicago southland.

Advance ticket purchase is encouraged in order to reserve enough bowling lanes for everyone. To purchase tickets you may contact Maggie at (708) 363-0187 (Tinley area) or Tim at (708) 244-3906 (Mokena area). Raffle prizes, gift cards. gift certificates are also being sought for raffle prizes. and donations can be made through Maggie or Tim.

Steve & Mike Maty collecting donations for Park Lawn.

Volunteers needed to help Park Lawn

Park Lawn seeks volunteers to help on the weekend of March 29th and 30th and April 12th and 13th from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm to spread the word about Park Lawn during the Annual Tag Days event.

During Tag Days, volunteers stand in front of storefronts and street intersections across the southwest suburbs of Chicago to give out information about Park Lawn and collect donations. On average this event helps raise more than $65,000 that directly benefits the programs and services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities at Park Lawn.

Since the first Park Lawn Tag Days in 1982. more than one million dollars has been collected. This is all from loose change and hills throughout the 31 years.

Students often take this opportunity to volunteer for Park Lawn's Tag Days to receive service hours for school or confirmation.

Safety vests, collection buckets and handouts with Park Lawn's logo will he provided to all volunteers. Convenient time slots and locations throughout the south suburbs of Chicago are available for everyone. No special training is necessary.

For more information on Tag Days or to schedule a time and location. call the Park Lawn Development Office at 708-425-6867 or visit www.parklawn.com.

All proceeds from Tag Days benefit Park Lawn. a local non-profit agency located in Chicago's southwest suburbs that provides vocational services, supported employment, adult developmental training, and residential services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Record Collectors Show

That great music which played on your phonograph will be available at the Record Collectors Convention being held at the Georgios/Comfort Inn, 8800 W. 159th St., Orland Park on Saturday, March 16th. More than 40 tables will focus on music issues from the 50's to the 90's with plenty of variety to choose from. Also thousands of albums and 45's would delight any listener but especially when looking at original magazines, books, posters, cassettes and memorabilia that bring back those memories.

This show starts at 9 a.m. and ends at 3 p.m. General admission is $3 and free to children 12 & younger. This is an all ages show and can be educational. just try explaining what an 8 track tape is to your children. Bring your want list and add to your collection. For more info call (773) 585-6254.

(standing-left to right): Senior Citizens' Council Officers: Mary Ann Leeder, Ann Dykstra, Hazel Bozen, Virginia Wrobel (seated-left to right): Marianne Brashinger, Evergreen Park Mayor James J. Sexton, Tony Yukich

Senior citizens council meetings

Senior Citizens' Council Meetings & Luncheons are monthly events in Evergreen Park. Along with many special Evergreen Park residents, we were pleased to have in attendance at the February meeting Evergreen Park Mayor James J. Sexton, 103-year old Marianne Brashinger. and Tony Yukich.

After an informative meeting and delicious luncheon. entertainment was provided by The Traverso Singers.

If you would like to attend the March meeting and luncheon, tickets are available ($6 each) at OCS, 3450 W. 97th Street. For more information, please phone 708-422-8776.

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Lunch offered for area senior citizens through Congregate Dining Program

Stickney Township Office on Aging offers a congregate meal site program for area senior citizens age 60 years and older. The dining program provides nutritionally balanced meals, nutrition education and nutrition risk screening for older adults aged 60 years and older and their spouses, and encourages socialization and better health through disease prevention and health promotion programs. The served meals meet nutritional standards by incorporating the Dietary Guidelines for Americans and providing a minimum of one-third of the Dietary Reference Intakes. The congregate meal program provides a hot lunch served daily at the Louis S. Viverito Senior Center in Burbank and on Tuesdays and Fridays at the North Stickney Medical Center in Stickney. Lunch is served at 11:30 for a requested $2.00 donation.

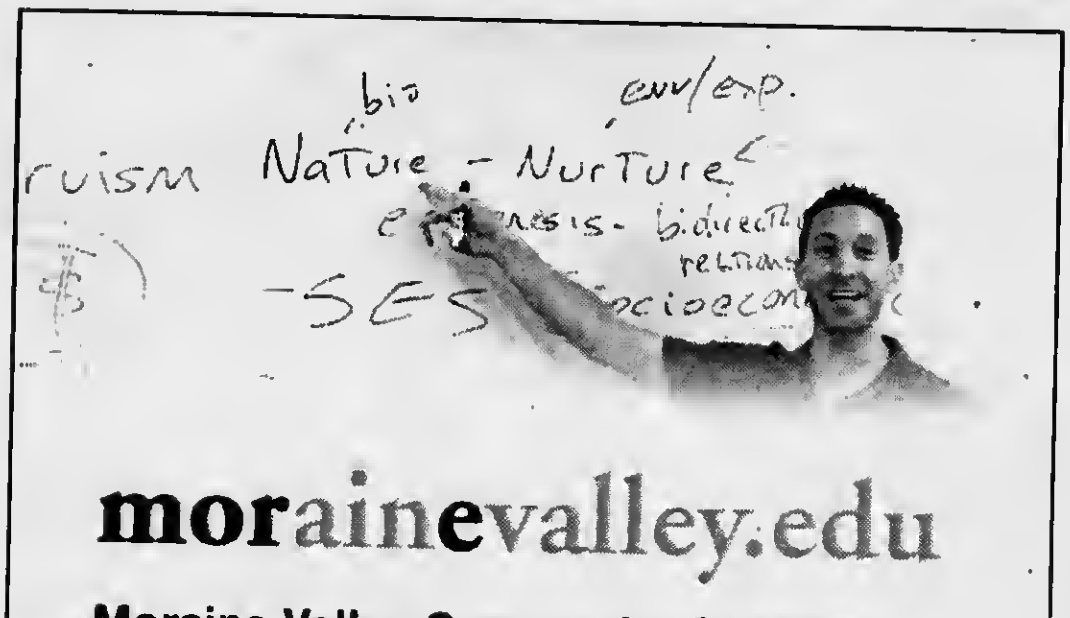
Seniors who attend this program also participate in a variety of other services offered at each senior center location. To include: exercise classes, wellness seminars, bingo, craft classes, trips, and various health screenings. The dining program is the ideal place for older adults to socialize and build companionship. There are also volunteer opportunities offered to seniors at the sites.

About Stickney Township Office on Aging (STOA)

As a division of the Township of Stickney, the Office on Aging is a designated Case Coordination Unit for the State of Illinois. STOA offers a number of programs to serve seniors, their families and caregivers such as Family Caregiver Support, Comprehensive Case Coordination, Nutrition, Information and Assistance and Elder Abuse Services.

STOA serves elders, their families and caregivers in Burbank, Stickney and Forest View, IL as well as two unincorpated areas of Cook County – Central Stickney and Nottingham Park.

The Louis S. Viverito Senior Center is located at 7745 S. Leamington Ave. in Burbank and the North Medical Center is located at 6721 W. 40th St. in Stickney. For more infonnation about any of STOA's programs please call 708-636-8850.



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United Party of Worth Township petition drive supporting pay freeze

The United Party of Worth Township announced its support of the resolution freezing salaries and benefits for al Worth Township elected officials through the year 2017. approved by the Worth Township Board.

In addition to calling for a freeze of salary and benefits for elected Township officials, the resolution calls for officials to avoid any reductions in services that benefit taxpayers. The Worth Township Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution.

In a strong show of support for the resolution, the United Party of Worth Township is launching a door-to-door petition drive to collect signatures of Worth Township residents who support the pay freeze as well as maintaining critical Township services for seniors and troubled youth. Residents can also sign the petition online at WorthUnited.com.

"I applaud the Board for putting the taxpayers ahead of their own interests," said Jack Murphy, the Worth Township Supervisor. "This shows that we are committed to doing the right thing in maintaining and enhancing crucial Township services."

The United Party of Worth Township is fielding a bipartisan slate of candidates for Worth Township offiees including John "Jack" Murphy for Supervisor, Roger Benson for Clerk, John Z. Toscas for Assessor, Steve Loulousis for Highway Commissioner and John " Jack" Lind, Michael Mahoney, Kelly Houlihan and David Walsh for Township Trustees. The election takes place on Tuesday April 9, 2013.

Take a spring noncredit classes at Moraine Valley

Moraine Valley Community College is offering several noncredit courses in a variety of subjects beginning in March and April. Topics' range from art to history to home decorating. Dates, times and class fees can be found in the spring class schedule or on the college's website.

Design decorative items such as flower pots and stepping stones in "Creating Stained Glass Mosaics" or make capris or pants with your sewing machine in "Sewing II." For more activity, sign up for "Belly Dancing" and learn basic movements, including veil techniques and routines. Experience a clear mind and focus during "Learn to Meditate."

The "Basic Timesharing" class will provide information about purchasing, using, exchanging, and selling timeshares. Students will receive resources to find a desired timeshare and avoid scams when selling a timeshare.

Like history? Examine the Korean War in the Cold War context in "Korea: the Forgotten War" or the assassination of JFK, conspiracy theories and the Warren Commission Report in "Conspiracy? The JFK Assassination." Discover the development of and impact Pullman had on American history in "The Rise, Fall and Rebirth of Pullman," while "Rock 'n' Roll: A History" investigates the origins and development of the music genre between 1950 and 1975.

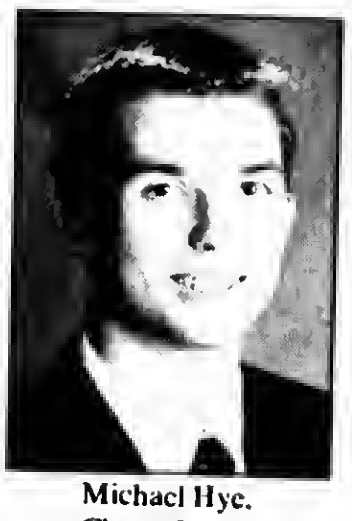
Breathe new life into the home this spring. Learn to draw floor plans, create a budget, and choose materials, finishes and accessories in "Do It Yourself Design." Lift landscape design off the ground onto decks, patios, terraces, and balconies in the "Container Gardens" class. "Garden Smart" will teach students how to design the front of their home for curb appeal and to stage their backyard for beauty and function. Fill the landscape with more annuals and perennials in the "Propagating Plants from Cuttings" workshop. "Spring Garden Cleanup" outlines all the things you need to know to "open" your garden for the season.

For more information on any of these classes, contact Corporate, Community and Continuing Education at (708) 974-5735.

Register today in person at the Registration Office, located in S125 on campus, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills, or by calling (708) 974-2110 (TTY for the hearing impaired 708-974-9556). Participants also can register online at morainevalley.edu by selecting "Register for Noncredit Classes" under Academic Focus then "Search, register and pay for noncredit classes."

St. Laurence student named an honorable mention to IHSA All-State Academic Team

St. Laurence High School student Michael Hye (Chicago, Garfield Ridge) has received an Honorable Mention to the IHSA All-State Academic Team. The IHSA received almost 450 nominations for this award, and Michael was one of only fifty students who were chosen to receive this honor. "Mike is an outstanding student-athlete," said Mr. Jim Muting, principal of St. Laurence. "He works hard on the court and field and does an exemplary job in the classroom. That being said, Mike is also a great person who comes from a great family. St. Laurence is the place 'Where Leadership Begins.' Mike exemplifies the word 'leadership' in all that he does at St. Laurence and in his community. This is quite an honor for Mike and his family and the students, faculty, and staff of St. Laurence High School."



Michael Hye, Class of 2013

Pillars of Honor in Oak Lawn

The original scale model of the World War II Memorial in Washington DC will be unveiled, during a program honoring veterans that includes a formal presentation of the colors, live patriotic musical performances, and a historical presentation of the WWII Memorial. Free, open to the public, call 847-954-0520 to reserve.

To be held on Saturday, March 23, 2013 at 2 p.m. at the Blake-lamb Funeral Home, 4727 W. 103rd St., Oak Lawn

Meet Board of Trustees of Moraine Valley Community College candidate Joe Skibinski on March 8

Join Joe Skibinski, candidate for the Board of Trustees at Moraine Valley Community College in the election on April 9, for a "Meet and Greet" on Friday, March 8 from 6:30-10 p.m. at the Oak Lawn VFW (9514 S. 52nd Street, across from the tracks). Skibinski will answer questions and listen to voters' thoughts and ideas. Pizza and other refreshments will be served.

"I see so much potential in the future of MVCC for local residents, businesses and students," Skibinski said. "I would like to see MVCC more directly involved in the community, expand their industrial arts programs – which are a mainstay of our community's future, and make their credit and noncredit classes even more accessible and affordable for everyone."

Skibinski is a Licensed Certified Public Accountant with DeMarco Sciacotta Wilkens and Dunleavy in Oak Brook. For the past 25 years he has taught accounting and finance classes as an adjunct faculty member at Saint Xavier University, University of Phoenix, and most recently, Governors State University.

It's Skibinski's passion for education that originally attracted him to his now expiring term as a Trustee for the Oak Lawn Public Library. He understands the importance of a strong education, especially one that is affordable for students, so that they may learn the solid skills necessary for a job, trade or business.

"I want to make sure that no one's dreams are ever destroyed for the want of affordable tuition," Skibinski said. "I want to make sure that you, the taxpayer, get the most for your tax dollar."

School District 146 Board approves $1 million tax abatement

School District 146 Board of Education unanimously approved a resolution for a $1 million tax abatement for District 146 taxpayers. The agenda item was recommended by the superintendent, Dr. Jeff Stawick. "The district experienced a

$1 million surplus during the last budget year, and given our healthy fund balances, we will abate that surplus to the tax payers," said Dr. Stawick. "The abatement will be spread equally over the next three years."

District 146's Director of Business Services, Jeff Charleston, was asked to explain the situation prior to the actual voting. Mr. Charleston said, "The abatement means that we will receive less money than we levied. The tax bills will go up less than they would have without the abatement."

Following the meeting Dr. Stawick commented on the abatement resolution, "I'm moved by the school board's compassion for the taxpayers. It's hard in these economic times for a Board to be disciplined enough to do such a thing, but the current Board has been very successful in this challenge."

The abatement will be reflected in the fall tax bills of 2013, 2014 and 2015. For more information, please visit www.district146.org and click on the link for the Tax Abatement Frequently Asked Questions.

Spaghetti dinner to benefit youth Mission Trip and Summer Camp

Trinity Lutheran Church will host their 44th Annual Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, March 9 from 4 to 7 pm. Trinity is located at 97th & Brandt Ave. (2 blocks west of Cicero) in Oak Lawn. The dinner is hosted by Trinity Youth, but parents and adults are busy preparing the homemade sauce for several days to make enough to feed all the people who come to enjoy a great meal at a great price! The spaghetti with homemade sauce will be served with salad and homemade French dressing, fresh bread and delicious desserts and beverages. Tickets can be purchased at the door. For adults it is $7.00 and children 12 and under $3.50. Tickets for the meatballs or sausage are sold separately for $1.50 each. The dinner will benefit the young people from the church for their summer camp and for the Jr. & Sr. high trip to Tabernacle, NJ where they will be helping with Hurricane Sandy clean-up. Come and taste, come and see for yourself - it is truly the best Spaghetti Dinner!

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Oak Lawn teen helps teens fighting cancer

Oak Lawn teenager Megan Bradbury (age 14) is giving back to teens fighting cancer. Megan went shopping recently with money she'd received for her birthday and during the Christmas holiday season, all with the aim of benefiting the Pediatric Oncology Treasure Chest Foundation (POTCF), a non-profit organization that provides toys, gifts and gift cards to children and teens diagnosed with cancer nationwide.

Shortly after her successful shopping venture, Megan visited the Treasure Chest Foundation's Orland Park warehouse and shared her reactions to the positive experience. "I'm always looking for a nice thing to do and I think the Treasure Chest Foundation is a great way to help other teens," said Megan.

POTCF Founder and CEO Colleen Kisel is grateful for Megan's help. "I'm overwhelmed by Megan's remarkable demonstration of thoughtfulness," said Colleen. "We are so blessed to have her support. What better match than a teen helping a teen."

If you would like further information about the Treasure Chest Foundation, please contact Colleen Kisel at 708-687-TOYS (8697) or visit the Foundation's web site at www.treasurechest.org.

Orland Township to host electronics recycling event

Orland Township Supervisor Paul O'Grady and Highway Commissioner Brian Younker are hosting "Sustainable Suturday" on Saturday, March 9 at the Highway Department, 16125 S. Wolf Road. Co-hosted by Vintage Tech Recyclers of Romeoville, the event will be held free of charge from 8 a.m. to noon. Assistance unloading will be available.

Acceptable items to donate include televisions, LCD monitors, computers, laptops, computer mouses, printers, fax machines, copiers, scanners, modems, CD drives, VCRs, keyboards, DVD players, microwaves, answering machines, typewriters, calculators, adding machines, postage meters, stereos and portable devices, speakers, cables, lights, computer parts, telephones, pagers, camcorders, cameras, cell phones, game counsels and handheld electronic devices. White goods and air conditioners will not be accepted.

By discarding electronics, valuable resources that the electronics are made from are wasted, resources such as precious metals, engineered plastics and other materials that require energy. Discarded electronics can also contain hazardous or toxic materials like lead, mercury or chromium. If recycled, nearly 60% of all electronics can be reused and an additional 38% can be recycled back to their raw state.

For additional information on "Sustainable Saturday", please call (708) 403-5148 or visit www.orlandtwp.org.

Social Media Summit

This one-day conference will teach businesses how to make social media work for them. Geared to beginners as well as advanced users. If you feel overwhelmed on where to start, this is a good place. The advanced track will help those who are already utilizing social media take it to the next level. Call 708-895-8200 for futher informaiton.

On Thursday, March 21 from, 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Cost, $125 at the Doubletree Hotel, 5000 W. 127th St., Alsip.

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World War II Veteran Steve Horosinski, Evergreen Park Mayor James J. Sexton & Mrs. Steve (Sue) Horosinski

Honor Flight Chicago receives donation

Evergreen Park Mayor James J. Sexton, a major supporter of Honor Flight Chicago, presented World War II Veteran Steve Horosinski with a generous donation at the Senior Citizens' Council meeting, to be forwarded to the Honor Flight Chicago organization.

Honor Flight Chicago flies World War II Veterans to Washington, D.C. for a free one-day trip, which leaves from Midway Airport, to see the World War II Memorial and other sites of interest, including the memorials to Korean and Vietnam Veterans. They urge World War II Veterans, who have not yet made this unforgetable trip, to sign up today, either on the Internet at http://www.honorflightchicago.org/ or by phoning 773-227-VETS (8387).

Oak Forest hosts Irish Festival on Saturday, March 9

The Oak Forest-Crestwood Area Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with the City of Oak Forest, will host the 4th Annual Oak Forest Fleadh (pronounced "flah") on Saturday, March 9 on Cicero Avenue between 151st Street and 159th Street. The Fleadh, Gaelic for "festival", will include the CNB Oak Forest Fleadh 5K, an open bike ride, a family parade, and the 5th annual pub and restaurant open house.

The city will close Cicero Avenue from 151st Street to 159th Street at 8 a.m. to prepare for the CNB Oak Forest Fleadh 5K at 8:30 a.m. The race starts and finishes at 159th and Cicero Avenue and takes runners through the city's 3rd Ward. At least 700 runners are expected to run the 3.1 mile course. Following the race, participants will enjoy refreshments and sponsor services in the Arbor Park Commuter Lot at 159th Street and Oak Avenue (across from the Metra train station). The awards ceremony for all age categories will begin promptly at 9:30 a.m. To register for the race, visit www.oak-forest.org.

After the 5K, children and adults are welcome to ride, walk or run a car-free Cicero Avenue as part of the Active Transportation Alliance's (ATA), Chicagoland's voice for better biking, walking and transit, Open Streets initiative. The event is free and does not require registration. Visit the ATA's tent just north of the viaduct at Waverly Avenue and Cicero Avenue for information about the season's bicycle rides and races as well as handouts, giveaways and activities.

The family parade will step off at 157th Street heading north on Cicero Avenue at 11 a.m. The parade lineup will include local businesses, community and civic groups, families, and more. Former state Senator Maggie Crotty will serve as the parade's grand marshal in honor of her 16 years as a state legislator.

The city once again will host a pub and restaurant open house from 5 p.m. to 3 a.m. Free shuttle buses will make continuous stops at participating pubs and restaurants, including Blarney Stone Pub, Oak Forest Bowl, Marcotte's Bar and Grill, Gaelic Park, Mrs. O'Brien's Pub, Beggar's Pizza, Tap's Pub, Cindy's Pub, and Oliver's Bar and Grill. The Best Western Plus Chicago Southland (4375 Frontage Road) is offering a special room rate of $72.99 plus tax for fest-goers. To book a room, visit www.oak-forest.org. MillerCoors also will be distributing taxi coupons to pub and restaurant open house venues in an effort to help their patrons drink responsibly and arrive home safely.

Throughout the event, alcohol will only be permitted inside designated areas such as beer tents, beer gardens, pubs, and restaurants. The city's public intoxication and open containers ordinances will be strictly enforced.

Free parking will be available all day and night in the Arbor Commuter Lot at the southwest corner of 159th Street and Oak Avenue, across from the Metra train station.

Cicero Avenue, from 151st Street to 159th Street, will be closed from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. The city's Emergency Management Agency will allow local traffic to get through the adjacent neighborhoods between 147th Street and 151st Street. It will redirect non-local traffic down 147th Street to Pulaski Road.

For more information or to volunteer, please call 708-687-4600, e-mail oakforestfleadh@oak-forest.org, visit www.oak-forest.org, or find us at www.facebook.com/cityofoakforest.

Swing'n Sugar Squares Sweetheart Couple

Annette and Rick Steinke of Tinley Park were the Sweetheart Couple who represented Swing'n Sugar Squares Square Dance Club at Metropolitan Chicago Association of Square Dancers Sweetheart Dance.

Many square dancers filled the gym floor at Trinity Lutheran Church in Roselle when Square Dance clubs from throughout the Chicago area were represented, each by a Sweetheart Couple in the grand march.

During the school year Swing'n Sugar Squares Square Dance Club, sponsored by Evergreen Park Recreation Department, dances at Evergreen Park Central Junior High School, 95th and Spaulding.

Chicago area square dance clubs that are members of Metropolitan Chicago Association of Square Dancers hold club dances and sponsor classes for new dancers during the year. This summer the Illinois State convention will be held at the Chicago Oak Brook Hills Marriott Resort July 26-28, 2013.

Square dancing is the official Illinois State folk dance and all of the clubs welcome you. For more information, call Hank at 773-238-5496 or Helen at 773-735-7638 or visit swinginsugarsquares.com.

4th Annual March 9, 2013
Hurrah! Hurrah!
It's time to Fleadh!
To join the fun or register for the CNB Oak Forest Fleadh 5K, visit www.oak-forest.org or call 708-687-4600.
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WSCR 670 The Score program director Mitch Rosen to speak at SXU's breakfast with the experts

WSCR 670 "The Score" Program Director Mitch Rosen will be the next guest speaker at the 2013 Breakfast with the Experts series on Tues., April 23 at Saint Xavier University.

Rosen's talk, titled "Chicago Sports Radio 2013," will examine how content interaction with sports fans has changed the way they follow Chicago teams.

The event, which is jointly sponsored by SXU and the Beverly Area Planning Association (BAPA), begins at 7:30 a.m. with breakfast and networking followed by the keynote address. It will be held in the Butler Reception Room, located in the Warde Academic Center at SXU's Chicago campus, 3700 W. 103rd St. Registration is $10 for the general public and free for BAPA Members. Space is limited and reservations are required. For more information or to register, contact BAPA at (773) 233-3100 or www.bapa.org.

Rosen embarked on a radio career that started at WGN in December 1988. Rosen produced the late night radio show of the legendary "Chicago Eddie" Schwartz, and later followed Schwartz to WLUP in 1992.

Two years later, Rosen was named general manager of the Continental Basketball Association's Chicago Rockers. But he soon returned to his first love of radio and was placed in management at WKTU in New York. Later that year, Rosen was named Program Director at WMVP. Following a successful run at WMVP, he was named Program Director of WSCR in 2005.

Under Rosen's leadership, WSCR acquired the broadcast rights for the Chicago White Sox and has without fail remained one of the nation's most popular sports talk stations.

Rosen lives with his wife Mary and their son Ben in Beverly. He is involved in numerous charitable activities, including serving on the American Diabetes Association's Board of Directors.

SXU's Breakfast with the Experts speaker series brings notable business, community and civic leaders together to share insights, experience, and industry knowledge with area business people. To suggest a speaker or learn about sponsorship opportunities, please contact (773) 298-3748 or specialevents@sxu.edu.

Ana Rivera, Builders Club sponsor Cynthia Minatto and Kiara Hood work together as blanketeers at the Project Linus "Make a Blanket Day" event.

Kerr Middle Builders Club creates blankets for Project Linus

Members of the Kerr Middle School Builders Club headed out to Lyons Township High School to participate in a Project Linus "Make a Blanket Day" event held recently. The Blue Island Middle School students served as "blanketeers" by crafting blankets for children in need. The Builders Club members, guided by club sponsors Mary Kikta and Cynthia Minatto, were able to make and donate four blankets to Project Linus.

Named after the adorable security blanket toting character from the Peanuts comic strip, Project Linus was founded in December 1995. Its mission is two-fold: to provide comfort and warmth by donating new, handmade blankets and afghans to children who are seriously ill or have experienced trauma, and to provide a fun service opportunity for interested individuals and groups for the benefit of children. Blankets are collected locally and distributed to children in hospitals, shelters, social service agencies, or anywhere that a child might be in need of a big hug.

One student does his job to help his community

Recently six students from St. Rita High School, led by senior Brad Glazier, delivered over 2,000 food items to the Ronald McDonald Charity House to help supply the needy in the Chicagoland communities.

Glazier, a resident of Orland Hills, is a board member of the Ronald McDonald Teen House and the President of the Social Awareness Commission at St. Rita. He wanted to find a way to give back to the community and believed getting his fellow classmates involved would be the best way. "Our school is full of great guys that go out of their way to help out," Glazier stated. "What better way than to use the strength of our student body to help the people that really need it in our community."

Glazier also partnered with another group at St. Rita, the Knights of Augustine, a group of students that come together to do various charity work throughout the year. With their help and the help of campus ministry, Glazier was able to take his idea to the administration.

Glazier went to Principal Brendan Conroy asking permission for a "dress down day", where students can dress out of uniform as long as they bring in at least two cans of food. Conroy immediately approved the idea and Glazier and his classmates were able to collect over 2,000 items of food and almost $200, all of which will be donated.

The donated food will go to help the Food Checkout Day where the Cook County Farm Bureau, partnered with Ronald McDonald House Charities, collects all the food and disperses it in the Chicagoland neighborhoods. The goal is to collect enough food through this drive to feed their neighborhoods for the entire year.

Glazier, a member of various clubs and groups at St. Rita as well as a standout on the lacrosse field, feels it is their obligation as a school to give back to a community that has given so much to them. "Sometimes we take for granted what we have. We go to lunch everyday knowing that food is there, we all wanted to give that same feeling to the people in this community."

Easter Brunches or Buffets, Catering, Bakery's, Candy Shops, Card Shops, Restaurants, Gift Shops, Beauty Shops, call to advertise in our Easter issue, at 708-425-1910.

Girls Lacrosse at the Oak Forest Park District

The Oak Forest Park District is now taking registration for Girls Lacrosse. All girls grades 3 & 4, 5 & 6 and 7 & 8 welcome to participate. The season runs April 14th thru June 9th with practices on Tuesdays from 6:00pm to 7:30pm and games played on Sundays. A parent meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 2nd at 7:00pm at the Central Park Building, 15601 South Central Avenue Oak Forest Illinois 60452. Fee $170 includes uniform, non resident fee waived. Questions? Call Kevin at (708) 687-7270, Ext. 117.

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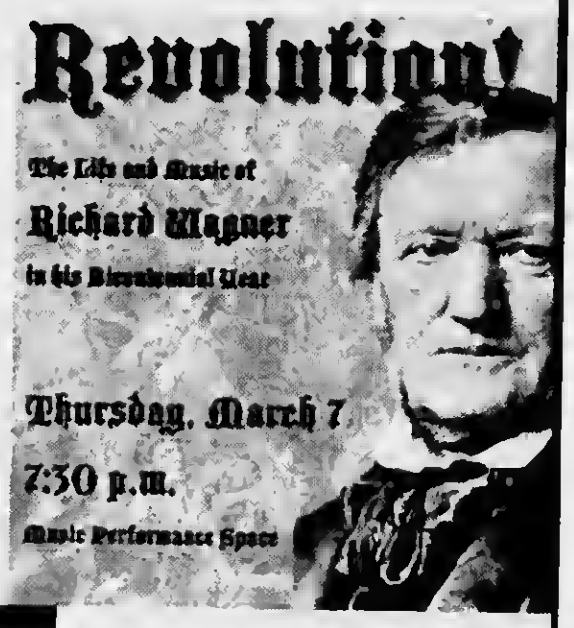

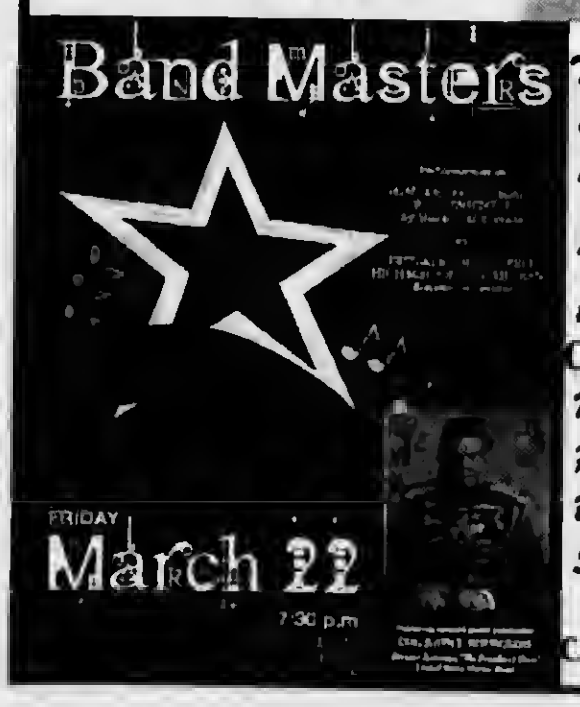

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Steppenwolf ensemble member William Petersen to star in Slowgirl

By Greg Pierce, directed by ensemple member Randall Arney

Performances are July 18 through August 25, in Steppenwolf's upstairs theatre.

Steppenwolf Theatre Company is pleased to announce the addition of Slowgirl by Greg Pierce to this summer's line-up. Directed by ensemble member Randall Arney, the production features ensemble member William Petersen with Rae Gray in the newly reconfigured Upstairs Theatre (1650 N Halsted St). July 18 – August 25, 2013.

In the wake of a harrowing accident at a house party in Massachusetts, a teenager flees to her uncle's isolated retreat in the Costa Rican jungle to await, or avoid, the repercussions. As the reclusive Sterling (Petersen) and his impulsive niece (Gray) get reacquainted over the course of a week, startling details about their pasts slowly unfold. Performed in the newly configured intimate Upstairs Theatre, Slowgirl is a compelling story about owning your past—and getting on with your life.

Ensemble member Randall Arney was the Artistic Director of Steppenwolf from 1987 – 1995, during which time he established the current Steppenwolf space at 1650 N Halsted St and oversaw the Broadway transfers of The Grapes of Wrath, The Song of Jacob Zulu and The Rise and Fall of Little Voice. Randall is currently the Artistic Director of the Geffen Playhouse in Los Angeles. Ensemble member William Petersen first appeared at Steppenwolf in the seminal production of Balm in Gilead in 1980 and has since appeared in Fool for Love, Dublin Carol and Endgame. In 1979, Petersen founded the Remains Theater Ensemble in Chicago with a group of fellow actors, including Steppenwolf ensemble members Gary Cole and Amy Morton. In 1996, Petersen made his Broadway debut in a revival of Tennessee Williams's The Night of the Iguana. He served as executive producer on CSI: Crime Scene Investigation and was nominated in 2004 for a Golden Globe Award for his portrayal of Gil Grissom, the lead investigator.

Tickets to Slowgirl ($20 – $78) go on sale May 3 to the public through Audience Services (1650 N Halsted St), 312-335-1650 and steppenwolf.org. 20 for $20: twenty $20 tickets are available through Audience Services beginning at 11am on the day of each performance (1pm for Sunday performances). Rush Tickets: half-price rush tickets are available one hour before each show. Student Discounts: a limited number of $15 student tickets are available online. Limit 2 tickets per student; must present a valid student ID for each ticket. For additional student discounts, visit steppenwolf.org/students. Group Tickets: all groups of 10 or more receive a discounted rate for any performance throughout the season. For additional information, visit steppenwolf.org/groups.

Chester Gregory in one-man show The Eve of Jackie Wilson

Black Ensemble Theater Founder and CEO Jackie Taylor announces the return of Chester Gregory (Sister Act, Hairspray) to Black Ensemble Theater to reprise his award-winning interpretation of Jackie Wilson in his one-man show The Eve of Jackie Wilson. This special engagement will be held Sunday, March 24 at 7:30 p.m., at the new Black Ensemble Theater Cultural Center, 4450 N. Clark Street in Chicago.

In The Eve of Jackie Wilson, Gregory portrays "Mr. Entertainment" Jackie Wilson, live in concert during his final days, revealing another side to the man "who truly gave his all and left it on the stage."

The Eve of Jackie Wilson was written by Crystal Lucas-Perry and Chester Gregory and directed by Da'Vine Joy Randolph (Tony Nominee for Best Performance by a Featured Actress in a Musical Ghost the Musical), with original musical direction by Rob Lewis. Robert Reddrick is the musical director for this Black Ensemble Theater performance. The show premiered to sold-out crowds at New York City's 54 Below in February 2013.

Tickets, priced at $45, are available by calling (773) 769-4451 or online at www.blackensemble.org.

Broadway in Chicago is announces the 2013 fall season

Broadway In Chicago is thrilled to announce the upcoming 2013 fall season line-up. Broadway In Chicago's 2013 fall season will include Buddy, Flashdance, To Master the Art, Evita, Once and Elf. The 2013 fall off-season specials include Emerald City Theatre's production of The Cat in the Hat, We Will Rock You and the return of Broadway's biggest blockbuster, Wicked.

The Cat in the Hat, June 15 to Sep. 1, 2013 at Broadway Playhouse at Water Tower Place (175 East Chestnut)

Emerald City Theatre's production of The Cat in the Hat, based on the book by Dr. Seuss and adaptation by Katie Mitchell, is the perfect friend for a boring rainy afternoon. From games and mischief to Thing One and Thing Two. The Cat brings all sorts of trouble to this grey day— but will Sally and her brother be able to explain the mess to Mother? This Dr. Seuss classic leaps onto the stage with chaotic exuberance in this adaptation from the National Theatre in London. Best suited for ages 3+.

Buddy, June 18-30, 2013 at Cadillac Palace Theatre (151 West Randolph St.)

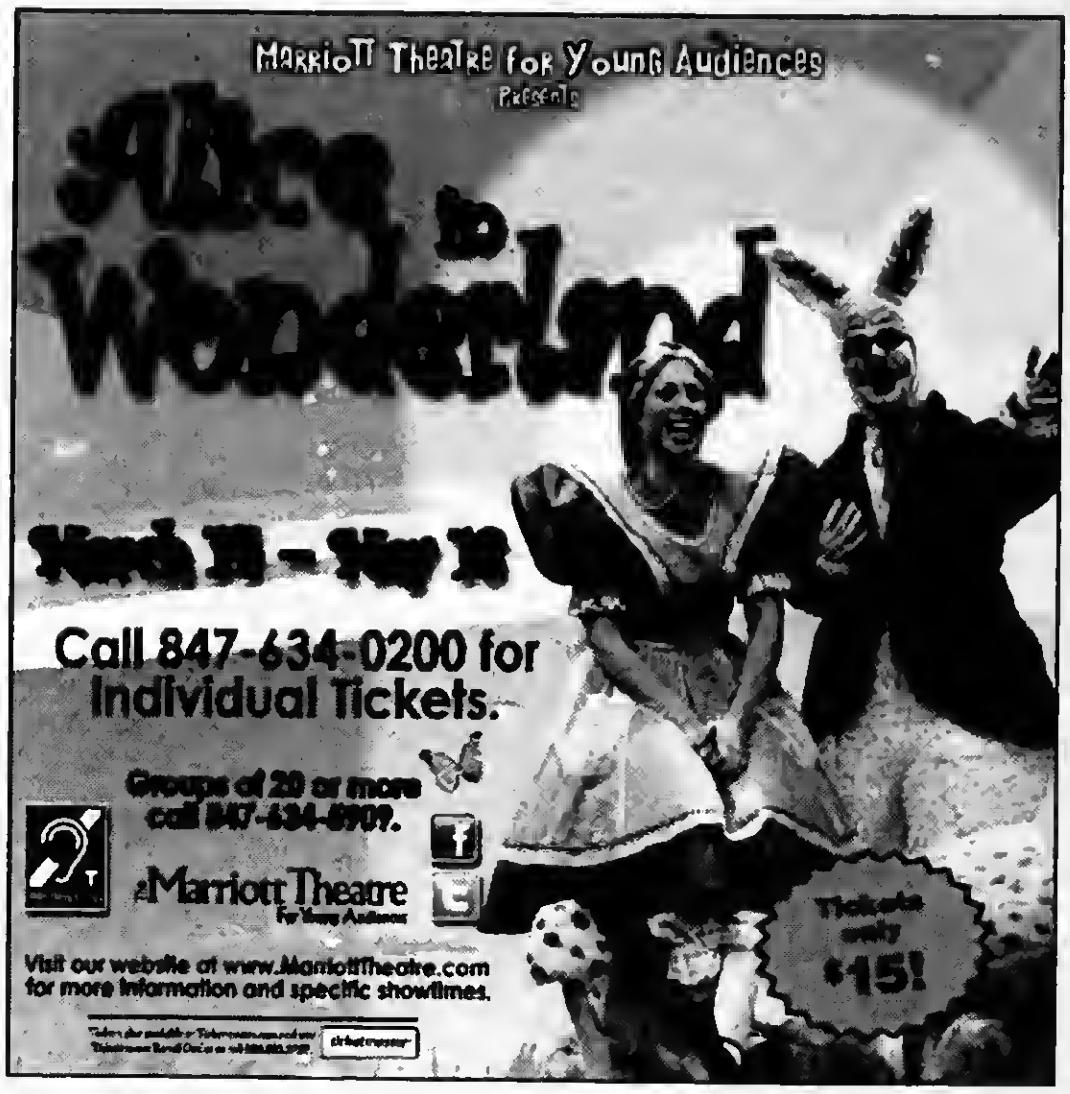
Before The Beatles, The Beach Boys or The Rolling Stones ever played a note, Rock 'n' Roll was forever changed by Buddy Holly, a 19-year-old kid from Texas. Buddy – The Buddy Holly Story tells the true story of Buddy's meteoric rise to fame, from the moment in 1957 when "That'll Be the Day" hit the airwaves until his tragic death less than two years later. The show features more than 20 hits including "That'll Be The Day," "Peggy Sue," and "Oh, Boy!" Buddy will have you on your feet and "send you out of the theater on an unstoppable high" (The Boston Globe)!

Flashdance, July 30 to August 11, 2013 at Cadillac Palace Theatre (151 West Randolph St.)

Celebrating its 30th Anniversary, the pop culture phenomenon of Flashdance is now live on stage. With electrifying dance at its core, Flashdance-The Musical tells the inspiring and unforgettable story of Alex Owens, a Pittsburgh steel mill welder by day and a bar dancer by night with dreams of one day becoming a professional performer. When romance with her steel mill boss threatens to complicate her ambitions, Alex learns the meaning of love and its power to fuel the pursuit of her dream.

Flashdance-The Musical features a score that includes the biggest hit songs from the movie, including the Academy Award-winning title song "Flashdance - What a Feeling," "Maniac," "Gloria," "Manhunt," and "I Love Rock & Roll." In addition to these hits, 16 brand new songs have been written for the musical with music by Robbie Roth and lyrics by Robert Cary and Robbie Roth. Flashdance-The Musical features a book by Tom Hedley (co-writer of the original screenpluy), and Robert Cary with direction and choreography by Sergio Trujillo (Jersey Boys, Memphis).

Tickets are now available for groups of 15 or more by calling Broadway In Chicago Group Sales at (312) 977-1710. Current Broadway In Chicago subscribers can renew now at BroadwayInChicago.com. New subscribers will be able to purchase the 2013 Fall Season on March 22, 2013. Individual tickets will go on sale at a later date. For more information, visit www.BroadwayInChicago.com.



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The Peach-Blueberry Egg Bread Bake was the Grand Prize-winning dish in the first-ever Eggland's Best "Your Best Recipe" Contest.

Serve Your Guests The Best

(NAPSA)-Nothing says great entertaining quite like the aromas of fresh-baked goods emanating from the kitchen. For your next turn as host/hostess, "eggcite" your guests with a winning recipe from Eggland's Best (EB) eggs that can he enjoyed for breakfast or dessert.

After receiving thousands of recipe entries in the inaugural Eggland's Best "Your Best Recipe" Contest, at-home chef Donna Poehoday-Stelmach was an_nounced as the $10,000 Grand Prize winner for her Peach-Blueberry Egg Bread Bake recipe.

"One of my goals as a hostess is to make something fresh and delicious," said Pochoday-Stelmach. "Friends and family love my Peach-Blueberry Egg Bread Bake because it has a good balance of healthy ingredients like fresh fruit and Eggland's Best eggs mixed with the comfort of an egg bread-custard."

Before you get cracking in the kitchen, look for the distinctive "EB" stamp to ensure your guests are being served an Eggland's Best egg superior in taste, nutrition and quality. Not only do Eggland's Best eggs perform consistently in recipes, hut they also contain 25 percent less saturated fat, 10 times more vitamin E, twice the amount of vitamin D, and double the amount of omega-3 fatty acids, when compared to ordinary eggs.

For additional information and recipes, visit www.egglandsbest.com.

Peach-Blueberry Egg Bread Bake

Ingredients:

5 cups egg bread (challah, paska, brioche), chopped into 1-inch pieces

5-6 peaches, skinless and cut into small slices

2 cups blueberries

3 Eggland's Best eggs

1/4 cup pure maple syrup

1/3 cup brown sugar

2 cups milk

4 ounces butter, unsalted, melted

1 teaspoon vanilla

1 teaspoon cinnamon

2 teaspoons granulated sugar

Optional Topping:

1 cup vanilla Greek yogurt

1/2 cup toasted sliced almonds pure maple syrup, warmed

Preparation:

Spray a deep pie dish with cooking spray and line with half of the cubed egg bread.

Add 2 cups of peaches and 3/4 cup of blueberries, then cover with remaining bread cubes.

In a medium bowl, beat Eggland's Best eggs and gradually add maple syrup and brown sugar, until blended.

Whisk in milk, butter, vanilla and cinnamon.

Pour liquid ingredients over bread cubes and cover dish with plastic wrap; refrigerate about an hour.

Preheat oven to 350°F, remove plastic wrap and spread remaining peaches and blueberries on top of the egg bread.

Sprinkle remaining sugar over dish and bake for about an hour, until bake has puffed up and is light brown.

Remove from oven and cool for 10 minutes.

Serve with Greek yogurt, toasted sliced almonds, and warmed maple syrup.

Crafters Corner & More

Spring Rummage Sale
Zion Lutheran Church
5865 Archer Rd, Summit, IL
Friday, March 8th, 9am - 4pm
Saturday, March 9th, 9am - 1pm

To advertise in Crafters Corner, or Crafters Wanted, call Linda for more information at 708-425-1910.

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Stock up for health and happiness

(NAPSA)-Staying healthy over the holidays, experts advise, requires at least two simple steps: planning ahead and taking time for yourself.

Fortunately, this can be simpler than many suspect because the "cool aisles" of the grocery store have many "secret weapons" to make holiday food preparation and entertaining easier and more enjoyable. Frozen and refrigerated foods provide an excellent opportunity for planning ahead for the holidays so you can spend less time in the kitchen and more time for yourself.

Smile and say cheesecake: This semihomemade treat can brighten an everyday meal or be the crowning touch on a holiday dinner.

It helps to "stock up" your freezer and fridge with:

• Delicious breakfast selections-waffles, pancakes, eggs, cheeses and breakfast sandwiches; combine fruit with yogurts and juices for smoothies to make holiday mornings even more fun.

• Super snacks and appetizers-cheeses, dips, egg rolls, shrimp, pizza, wings and meatballs; serve on attractive platters and let the party begin.

• Dinner plans-the frozen aisles offer a variety of fully prepared entrées; they can be on the table for your family in minutes on busy nights.

• Side-dish pleasures-ready-to-heat-and-eat vegetables, potatoes and breads can make holiday meals less work.

• Delightful desserts-fill the freezer and refrigerator with enough delicious pies, cakes, ice cream, puddings, whipped toppings and ready-to-bake cookies to please your family, friends and guests.

Here, from the experts at the National Frozen & Refrigerated Foods Association (NFRA), is a delicious, easy holiday dessert you can serve with a "homemade touch":

Cheesecake with Cherry Topping

1 frozen cheesecake
10 ounces sweet or sour pitted cherries (frozen works well)
2 tablespoons lemon juice
1/4 cup sugar
1 tablespoon cornstarch
1/2 cup water
Fresh mint

Thaw cheesecake according to package directions. To make topping, combine cherries, lemon juice, sugar, cornstarch and water in medium saucepan. Bring to a boil. Once boiling, cook it for an additional 1 to 2 minutes, then remove from heat. Cool completely. Spread on top of cheesecake. Garnish with mint leaves. Serves 4-6.

For more delicious recipes, tips and important information on frozen and refrigerated foods, visit www.EasyHomeMeals.com and "like" NFRA on Facebook at www.facebook.com/EasyHomeMeals.

Obituaries

Lucille "Lucy" Steinberg; loving mother of Mary Lou (Neal) Beazley; cherished Grandmother of Lisa, Michael and Julie; Great Grandmother of Grace, Amanda and Nick; long time loving companion of John Ochsenfeld; fond sister of the late Mary Asboth, late Dan and late Fred Loffredo; also survived by many nieces, nephews and good friends. Visitation was at Kosary Funeral Home 9837 S. Kedzie, Evergreen Park Interment Private (708) 499-3223.

Delia V. Moreno (Vargas); lived in Evergreen Park, as a homemaker. Beloved wife of Richard Sr.; loving mother of Gloria Zysko, Richard (Linda) and Raymond Mereno; cherished Grandmother of Natalie, Amelia and Nicky; fond sister of Louie (Roquel) Vargas; also survived by nieces,nephews and other relatives. Visitation was at Kosary Funeral Home 9837 S. Kedzie, Evergreen Park; where funeral Service was held at Interment St. Mary CemeteryFor more details call (708) 499-3223.

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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 39 | Number 18 | March 19, 2013

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

Oak Lawn Park District Preschool Registration

Registration is currently being accepted for the Oak Lawn Park District's Preschool classes.

Learn as you Grow I and Playschool is for 3 year olds. Sessions are Tuesdays and Thursdays. September through December. 2013 and January through May 2014. Times are 9:00 to 11:30 am or 12:00 to 2:30 pm.

Learn As You Grow I will be held at the Little White Building. 9514 S. 54th Avenue. and Playschool will be held at the Oak View Center. 4625 W. 110th Street. The fee is $670 for residents and $752 for non-residents. There are three payment options available and a $50 non-refundable deposit is included in the fee.

Learn as you Grow II and Prep School is for 4 year olds. Sessions are held Monday. Wednesday and Friday. from September through December. 2013 and January through May. 2014 and runs from 9:00-11:30 am or 12:30 to 2:30 pm at the Little White Building. 9514 S. 54th Avenue. Prep School runs from 9:00 to 11:30 am or 12:00 to 2:30 pm at the Oak View Center. 4625 W. 110th Street. The fee is $1.000 for residents and $1124 for non-residents. There are three payment options available and a $50 non-refundable deposit is included in the fee.

Registration will be accepted until classes are full. For more information on payment plans or on preschool classes. please contact David MacDonald at 708-857-2200. ext. 2604.

Musichorale Community Choir

Musichorale Community Choir would like to welcome our newest members.

(from left to right) Margaret Podrazik. Luke Idaszewski. Theresa Wojdelski, and Patricia Brayley.

They will be singing in their first concert, Melodies from your Memories. directed by Jeffrey Silhan. on Sunday. April 21st at 3:20pm.

Please visit www.musichorale.org for additional information.

Village of Justice is financially secure

by Jan Glaz

An Ordinance: Providing an Appropriation for Corporate and Other Purposes for the Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2013, and Ending December 31, 2013, in the Village of Justice. Illinois, met with unanimous approval at the Mareh 11th Village of Justiee President and Board of Trustees Meeting. Trustee Ed Rusch provided details. Rusch reported that Calene Zabinski. Zabinski Consulting Services. the Village financial consultant. stated that financially the Village is much better than they have been over the past 20 years. The appropriation ordinance that passed has a $60,000 surplus. "We have been very. very. conservative on our budget. With the surplus the Village can do a number of things. add more money to the pension funds. and perhaps pay some bonds quicker. and provide for equipment and streets. So. even if we fall on some hard time. we should be okay." Rusch said.

Trustee Rick Symonds introduced two motions that met with approval. one to authorize Hoefferle/Butler Engineering to perform the necessary work to produce an up to date Sewer Atlas for the Village and second. a Resolution Authorizing Engineering Services and Document Processing Authority for the Illinois Jobs Now Road Improvement Projects. Trustee Sue Small announced Scholarship applications will be available on the website or for pick-up for high school seniors who reside in Justice. Applications must be submitted by May 1st and may be e-mailed, faxed or dropped off in the Finance Office at the Justice Administration Building.

Before the meeting adjourned Trustee Ed Rusch Jr. introduced new businesses opening in Justice. approved licenses: Happy Days Day Care doing business at 8455 W. 79th Street; new owners of Beauty World doing business at 8517 S. 88th Avenue; A & W Brothers. Inc. doing business at 8243 S. 86th Court; and Koenig Transport, Inc. doing business at 8249 S. 86th Court. A motion for the Business License of the Tobacco Mart at 8400 S. Roberts was not approved. receiving a unanimous negative vote.

Hickory Hills Alderman questions school Superintendent

by Jan Glaz

On March 14th at the Hickory Hills City Council Meeting Dr. Jeannie Stachowiak. Superintendent. North Palos School District 117. addressed the city council and entered into a discussion with 3rd Ward Alderman. Tom McAvoy. regarding the Conrady Junior High School Reconstruction Referendum. which will appear before the voters of North Palos School District 117 (including all Hickory Hills voters) on the April 9th Local Consolidated Election Ballot. In the statement which will appear on the ballot. NPD District 117 asks the voters to approve the issuance of up "to $30,000,000 in bonds" to finance the reconstruction of Conrady and the improvement of the site thereof.

McAvoy questioned the Superintendent about rebuilding at the current location because the facility is on prime commercial property. If Conrady could be rebuilt somewhere else. then the current location could be rezoned to commercial. sold and commercially developed. Superintendent Stachowiak replied that the district owns the property and they have a detailed plan and cost estimates to rebuild a new school prepared by Legat Architects / International Contractors, Inc., but first would have to know how the community felt. Alderman McAvoy asked, "Should this referendum pass on April 9th. is there any provision in it that would prohibit the district from considering alternative locations?" Stachowiak replied that they did not have a prohibitive restriction. but the district is looking at educational appropriateness. convenience and cost. The District would be open to other sites but their plans are on site and. the Board of Education has to consider the best location for the children's education.

Before the meeting adjourned Alderman McAvoy announced a Special Business Event "Networking after Hours" would be held on Wednesday, March 27, 2013, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the Marquette Bank 9503 S. Roberts Road. All businesses are welcome for an evening of refreshments, a prize drawing and excellent networking opportunities. RSVP by March 25th Sandy Rohan: 708.430.5298.

Meet the candidates night

Evergreen Park PTA Council will be hosting a "Meet the Candidates Night" on Tuesday. March 26, 7:00pm at Evergreen Park Community High School. Candidates from School Districts 124 and 231, Moraine Valley Community College, and Worth Township have been invited to speak and answer questions. All voters of Evergreen Park are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Box lunch day

Thursday, March 28th at 10:30 a.m. is Box Lunch Day.

The sponsor of the day is Ingalls Center for Rehabilitive Medicine located in Harvey, Illinois.

They will be discussing stroke warning signs and prevention. They are commited to giving your mind and spirit the ability to be whole again. Tickets are available at the Oak Lawn Senior Center. 5330 Weest 95 Street for $4.00.

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 6 | March 19, 2013

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Oak Forest declares pig a domestic animal

by Jan Glaz

The Oak Forest City Council voted in favor of an Ordinance revision to the City of Oak Forest Animal Control. Ordinance at the City Council Meeting held on March 12th. The animal control ordinance review was suggested by an Alderman after it came to his attention that a citizen shared residence with a pot-bellied pig. The Oak Forest Police Department is the primary source for animal control issues and was tasked with the revision to include recent developments and to streamline the ordinance. Police Chief Greg Anderson, who reviewed the entire ordinance, provided details.

Anderson cited the recommended key changes to include specifically: pot-bellied pigs as a domestic animal; a definition for a competent person to take care of an animal; an increase of the boarding fee, addressing animals let loose that are waiting to be picked up, the fee will inerease from $10.00 to $20.00 a day; a motor vehicle provision to the cruelty to animals left in motor vehicles in adverse conditions; duplicate language was removed from the ordinance; wording that the Chief of Police will conduct the vicious dog hearings, not the City Administrator, and the addition of a' Right of Entry' provision, the right to enter private property to enforce animal control issues. The ordinance revision will be revisited at a later date to address changes in various wording; particularly to define a control officer or police officer's right of entry.

The Oak Forest Police Force also had the task of revising the Special Events Ordinanee and the city council approved the revising, before the meeting adjourned. Key changes: Major and Minor Event Determinations: Major Special Event application requirements with City Council approval at least 60 days in advance. Less than 60 days City Administrator can approve on a ease-by-case basis; City may require 'City Services' and bill appropriately and the City Council may waive any City costs; Minor Special Events requirements (no City Services needed).

Baseball theme cited for Orland dog parks

by Jan Glaz

It was noted at the Village of Orland Park Board Meeting held on March 4th that the Dog parks planned for Orland Park could have a baseball theme, with residents paying an annual membership fee to exereise their pets. First proposal is a membership fee for residents of Orland Park and Orland Township of $25 annually ($10/additional dog) and $50 annually ($20/additional dog) for non-residents. Trustee Gira said our neighbor to the west charges $80 for non-residents. Signs would be placed around with baseball themes for local pet-focused businesses to buy sponsorships. Director Frank Stee is in favor of keeping a baseball theme, and possibly calling it the "Dog Out." Trustee Gira offered, "Another possibility is adding a dog wash. Apparently they are successful. They are self-contained with their own HVAC, as well as shampooing. Brusseau Design Group is in the process of preparing the design and layout of the large and small dog areas, according to the media packet. "All the wish list items will be done in the same budget," Gira said. Director Frank Stec said they are considering keeping a baseball theme, and possibly ealling it the "Dog Out." Dog Park is tentatively scheduled to open in mid-June.

Mayor McLaughlin said the village annual report has a lot more financial information than last year, after getting feedback from several people about a lack thereof in last year's version He is also complimenting efforts on an Orland Park video, which can be seen in Local Voices.

Final meeting news: Marquette Bank is eurrently closing out underground storage tank (UST) incident reports for the former 7-11 site located at 14301 South LaGrange Road. The proposed Highway Authority Agreement (HAA), which is required by the IEPA, will allow the contamination that has migrated under the Right-of -Way to remain in place. These types of HAA agreements are very standard in areas of development where former gas stations existed. Generally, this agreement prevents the use of groundwater in the area and limits access to soil within the right-of-way. A bid was approved for two 2013 Chevrolet 4WD Tahoe 5W4 Special Service Package Vehicles to Miles Chevrolet, Inc. of Decatur, Illinois, in an amount not to exceed $61,980.

Scholarship winners Michael Lahey and Matthew McIntyre, Heather Warthen, Dana Anderson, Dave Corradino, Tami Khuntia
Photo by Wehmeier Portraits

Orland Park area Chamber scholarships available

Chamber Members' Children Eligible to Apply.

The Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce is now accepting applications for three $1000 Scholarships that will be awarded in June at a ceremony held at the Chamber's office which is located at 8799 W. 151st Street.

"We look forward to awarding these scholarships every year." shares Keloryn Putnam, Executive Director of the Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce. "Every year our Scholarship Committee has a very difficult task reviewing the applicants as the students that apply are all dedicated and hard-working. I'm sure they will have their work cut out for them again this year."

To be considered for the scholarships, the applicants must he a current high school senior and college bound in Fall 2013. Applicants must be the child of an employee who works for a current chamber member or the child of the owner of a business that is a current chamber member. Applications can be found on the home page of the chamber's website at www.orlandparkchamber.org. All completed applications and supporting documents must be received by the Chamber office no later than Friday, April 5. Winners will be notified by mail.

"We encourage all of our members to let their employees know about this great opportunity: Awarding these scholarships is one of the fun things we do to give back to our community." Putnam said.

Tinley Park grants an agreement between Metra Station and Cavellini's

by Jan Glaz

A Non-Exclusive License Agreement between the Village of Tinley Park for the Oak Park 80th Avenue Train Station and the restaurant services of Cavellini's LLC. met with approval on March 5th at the Village of Tinley Park Board of Trustees Meeting. Cavellini's, as vendor, will have a none-exclusive license to provide breakfast and lunch services from 5:15 a.m. through 1 p.m. on Monday through Friday and 6:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturdays, along with special events within the facility outside of day to day hours. A license agreement has been negotiated with the vendor paying a base rent with sharing of 2% of the gross sales for the first $300,000, with the percent increasing to 2.5% for sales beyond $400,000. Cavellini's will he responsible for internal maintenance of the internal facility with the Village responsible for the external parking facilities. The license agreement is for a five (5) year period with a five (5) year option.

Officials also agreed to adopt a resolution approving an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Village of Tinley Park and Cook County for Access to Geographic Information Systems. In December of 2011, the Village adopted an agreement to join the Geographie Information Systems Consortium. In order to maintain the GIS data, the Village regularly needs to obtain updated parcel information from Cook County by way of an intergovernmental agreement like this one. Per the terms of the intergovernmental agreement, the GIS data is made available to the Village at no cost.

A consideration to renovate the Village Hall phone and data lines came up for diseussion before the meeting adjourned. The Village Board had awarded a contract in the amount of $94,199 on December 18, 2012 to Envision General Contractors for the work. During the renovations it was determined that additional phone and computer cabling is in need of replacement and the cost will be 25 to 30 percent higher than the current proposal. The item is up for approval with a cost not to exceed $14,175.

Village View

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SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 14 | Number 6 | March 19, 2013

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Worth police will have ATV to help stop crime

by Matt Mayer

Officials at a recent Worth Board of Trustees meeting approved a police department request to purchase an ATV for $8,500. Trustee Mary Rhein said the ATV would help with the police departments "aggressive patrol damage". The black and white ATV will be equipped with a siren, emergency lights, a public address system and a windshield. The funds will be taken from the police department's asset forfeiture fund. said Rhein

The ATV will allow police officers access to areas where the police cars are unable to enter to help with underage drinking, criminal damage to property, and graffiti at Waters Edge and the 10 parks in the village. If the ATV proves beneficial, a second one may be purchased. Police officers will receive four to eight hours of training from one of the officers who is a certified ATV instructor, said Rhein

In other news, the village plans to reinstitute the Farmers Market, which was founded by the late Worth Township Clerk Bud Gavin and was held in the parking lot of Prospect Bank. The market closed in 2004 due to the village being prohibited from hanging a 60-foot advertising banner at 111th and Harlem Avenue, probably because it was too dangerous. Village Clerk Bonne price said.

Trustee Rich Dziedzic said the Farmers Market is slated to be held on the third Sunday of the month from April to September in conjunction with a flea market in the Metra Station parking lot at 110th and Depot Avenue. "We're contracting with 20 vendors that sell fruit, vegetables, candles and homemade jams. Realistically if you have something to sell, come on out," said Dziedzic There is a $20 vendor fee for one farmers market and flea market, and $15 for each additional market. The fee to vend all six markets is $85.

Palos Park discussed the creation of a fencing task force

by Matt Mayer

Officials at the Palos Park Village Council meeting discussed the creating a task force regarding updating the village fencing code. Commissioner G. Darryl Reed called the current fencing code outdated since the code only allows post and rail fences in the front yard. Reed said the post and rail fences are fine for ranch style homes and cottages but not for the multimillion dollars homes.

Commissioner Dan Polk said the village should have the right to ban certain types of fences but should open up the choices to more than just the post and rail style that is currently mandated. However the village should have the right to ban certain types of fences. "No one wants to go down 119th of 123rd street and see a six foot cedar block walls," said Polk.

Village manager Rick Boehm suggested that the task force should be limited to five to seven people that would report their recommendations to the planning commission.

Other highlights: An ordinance amending Part ten, Title four, Chapter 1046, Section 1046.32 (a) regarding water rates was approved. The ordinance amends the village code to clarify the water rates which went into effect January 1, 2013 reflecting the increase that the village's water supplier, Oak Lawn, has proposed for system upgrades. An ordinance which states that the village has a 2000 F-450 Dump Truck which is no longer necessary or useful, and that the best interest of the village would be to to sell the truck was approved as well as a request for an Intergovernmental Agreement for planning and administering a Half Marathon in the Southwest Suburban area. A contract with Beary Landscaping for $503.75 per month for landscaping work at the Metra Station and the triangle at Southwest Highway and 80th Avenue was also approved.

Worth Park District upcoming events

Easter Egg Hunt

Thousands of eggs will be hidden throughout the playground at the Terrace Centre on Saturday, March 30. This free community egg hunt begins at 11:05 Sharp! No pre-registration required.

Brunch With Bunny

After the Egg Hunt join the Easter Bunny for a good meal, inflatable's and a picture. Brunch is on Saturday, March 30, 11:30-1pm. Pre-Registration required by March 25. Fee for age 12 and under is $6. Age 13 and over is $8. Location: Terrace Centre Gymnasium

Short Sports

Introduce your young athlete to basketball, soccer, kickball, hockey and good sportsmanship. Class takes place at the Terrace Centre on Mondays, April 8-May 13, 5-5:45pm. Only $29 for residents of Worth Park District, $44 for Non-Residents. Registration Deadline, April 1.

Visit http://www.worthparkdistrict.org for more information.

Palos Park Recreation Department

Hop on over to the Palos Park Recreation Center for our Egg Hunt on Sunday, March 24 from 1:00-2:30 p.m. for ages 0-8. Children will have the opportunity to collect eggs filled with treats and find marked eggs for special prizes. The day will also include a variety of fun crafts, and a visit with the Easter Bunny arriving via Fire Engine. Refreshments will be served in the lower level. The egg hunt will be held on the Village Green, weather permitting. If inclement weather, the egg hunt will be held in the gym. Don't forget to bring a basket to collect eggs.

For more information, call 708 671-3760 or view our Winter/Spring Brochure 2013, online at Palospark.org. To register online go to www.activenet15.active.com/palospark or drop by the Palos Park Recreation Department located at 8901 West 123rd Street, Palos Park.

(back row, left to right) Sinead Finnerty, Kerry Kennedy, Brenna Smith, Anna Burns, Caitlin Conroy, Rebecca Mankus, Jessie Racinowski, Mary Kilroy, Kayla Patrick, (3rd row left to right) Sarah West, Mary Joan Evans, Jenna Wojcieki, Maureen O'Connor, Sarah Abbott, Kate Mitchell, Maureen Butler, Clare McKeown, Jamila Sweis (2nd row left to right) Jane Kelly, Emily Ryan, Anne Stasaitis, Casey Rowe, Elizabeth Janet, Callie Janet, Bridget Hynes, Alexandria Nudo, Danielle Michalik, Samantha Rowling (Front row left to right) Vice Principal Sr. Lois Bromark, Ceili Erickson, Christina Vogt, Lauren March, Christine Schmidt, Caitlin Cronin, Maggie Graney-Dolan, Sarah Newell, Grace Haberkorn, Melissa Fox, Principal/Acting President Mrs. Claudia Woodruff. Absent: Kelly Clarke, Natalie Fricks and Clare Kennedy

Mother McAuley seniors named Illinois State Scholars

Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School is pleased to announce that 41 members of the Class of 2013 have been named Illinois State Scholars. This honor is awarded by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission based upon each student's unweighted cumulative grade point average and ACT score, and recognizes them for their excellent academic achievement. Approximately 10 percent of Illinois' high school seniors are designated state scholars and are gifted with a Certificate for Outstanding Performance in the 2013-2014 Illinois State Scholar Program competition. The students who have won this honor are listed below.

Sarah Abbott (Alsip), Anna Burns (Chicago), Maureen Butler (Chicago), Kelly Clarke (Evergreen Park), Caitlin Conroy (Chicago), Caitlin Cronin (Chicago), Ceili Erickson (Evergreen Park), Mary Joan Evans (Chicago), Sinead Finnerty (Chicago), Alexis Flamburis (Palos Park), Melissa Fox (Oak Lawn), Natalie Fricks (Chicago), Margaret Graney-Dolan (Chicago), Grace Haberkorn (Palos Heights), Bridget Hynes (Oak Lawn), Callie Janet (Oak Lawn), Elizabeth Janet (Oak Lawn), Jane Kelly (Evergreen Park), Clare Kennedy (Palos Heights), Kerry Kennedy (Palos Heights), Mary Kilroy (Oak Lawn), Rebecca Mankus (Oak Lawn), Lauren March (Oak Lawn), Clare McKeown (Oak Lawn), Danielle Michalik (Oak Forest), Katherine Mitchell (Chicago), Sarah Newell (Evergreen Park), Alexandria Nudo (Orland Park), Maureen O' Connor (Chicago), Kayla Patrick (Chicago), Jessie Racinowski (Chicago), Jessie RacinowskiCasey Rowe (Orland Park), Samantha Rowling (Chicago), Emily Ryan (Chicago), Christine Schmidt (Chicago), Brenna Smith (Evergreen Park), Anne Stasaitis (Chicago), Jamila Sweis (Oak Lawn), Christina Vogt (Chicago), Sarah West (Chicago), and Jenna Wojcieki (Chicago).

Village View

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B-MAC EDITION

Volume 7 | Number 6 | March 19, 2013

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Alsip sanctions two year rent freeze

by Jan Glaz

Trustee Ryan asked for a two year rent freeze for the Alsip Heritage Senior Complexes I & II and the Board of Trustees approved the request at the Village of Alsip Village Board Meeting, March 5th. Ryan said there were multiple meetings to discuss the issue and the finance committee agreed that the village can afford to freeze the rental rates. The rates had been going up $10.00 per month, per year. The properties are in the process of completing remodeling and new audio video equipment has been installed at the both Clubhouses. There are units available and Mayor Patrick Kitching informed the board that a sign advertising the properties has been installed on Pulaski. Trustee Ryan added that up to $5600 a year is spent on advertising. "To get the word out." Kitching responded. "We need to advertise locally through the chamber etc...etc."

Important Board Approvals: Before the meeting adjourned Trustee Dalzell requested an approval to waive bids and approve the IPRF Grant Security Camera proposals totaling $16,220 for the Village Hall and $15,350 for the Public Works Building. The Illinois Public Risk Fund (IPRF) offers financial relief to its members through the IPRF Grant Program, designed to ease the burden of safety-related expenses. Mayor Kitching commented that there is no cost to the village as it is all grant money.

Trustee McGreal requested an approval to advertise for a bid for the purchase of one new 2013 Ford F-550 Dump Truck with snow plow and salt spreader. Delivery date for the new truck is estimated to be September of 2013 and the old unit #16 will be sold at the Southwest Conference of the Mayors 2013 Fall Municipal Vehicle Auction; approval to advertise for a bid for the purchase of one new 2013 Vermeer Wood Chipper to replace the existing 1990 Wood Chuck Diesel Chipper. This purchase has been included in the 2012-2013 budget.

Midlothian seeks to clarify referendum information

by Jan Glaz

On March 12th at the Village of Midlothian Board Meeting officials agreed to a Resolution Authorizing the Mailing of Factual Information to Residents Regarding the Advisory Referendum Question. Mayor Terrence Stephens announced that the Village Lawyer J. Daniel McGrath Jr. had proposed authorizing a method of clarification to allow voters knowledge regarding what a referendum is about. This information would be condensed into a one page document assessable to the resident.

Other Board Meeting News: A Resolution passed authorizing Execution of Landscape Maintenance Agreement with Roy Erikson Outdoor Maintenance Company, for a total six month cost of $18,180.00 and an Ordinance Authorizing Expenditure of Funds for the Construction of a Water Tower with Robinson Engineering, not to exceed $87,300.00. The purchase of a Michael T. Woike Memorial Plaque met with board approval with donations collected in the amount of $750.00. The Board Authorized the Mayor to issue permission, based on fire inspection, for Witchy Wearables to host the following events in the parking lot at 4459 W. 147th Street: Dancing Dragon Craft Fair on April 27th and April 28th; Fairy Fest on June 1 and June 2; Hocus Pocus Anniversary Craft Fair on October 5 and October 6, 2013. A motion passed in the amount of $1,151.00 for membership dues for the Illinois Municipal League Invoice.

Before the meeting adjourned a commendation was delivered for outstanding police work, keeping the Village of Midlothian safe. Commended are: Sergeant Peterson; Officer Podgorny; Officer Tracy; Detective Panozzo; Officer Tavormina and Officer Ryczek.

Joann Wright

Maria DeCaprio-Sunta

Alumni matching gift supports foundation scholarships

Joann Wright, dean of Counseling and Advising at Moraine Valley, and Maria DeCaprio-Sunta, an art instructor, community volunteer, both share a belief that Moraine Valley was an exceptional place to earn their degree. That's why they felt compelled to support the Moraine Valley Foundation and help others attain the education they received. Joann and Maria, along with an anonymous donor, have created a $10,000 matching gift fund to support Moraine Valley student scholarships. This means that for every $2 you donate to the Foundation, $1 will be matched, up to $10,000. Completing this challenge will raise $30,000 for student scholarships. "I was a first-generation college student, so Moraine Valley Community College was a good fit for me," says Joann about her experience as a student many years ago. "I received a rich education in a supportive environment. They made me believe I could be successful." Maria DeCaprio-Sunta concurs. "I believe the college truly is changing lives. It was a perfect stepping stone for me because it's such a confidence-building environment." she says.

Joann encourages everyone to donate, and especially hopes alumni will participate in the fundraising campaign. "I urge anyone whose life was changed by Moraine Valley to help those who have followed you. Please consider giving back to the institution that gave so much to you." she says.

As the dean of Counseling and Advising at Moraine Valley, Joann has personally seen how the Foundation helps students. "They've assisted many individuals who were facing situations that could have derailed their education, but because the Foundation was there, they were able to continue their studies," she says. Maria and Joann are excited to be a part of the Foundation for Success: Transforming Lives at Moraine Valley fundraising campaign. "I've met some of the recipients of Foundation scholarships," says Maria. "And I can assure you—if you make a donation, your money is going to make a real difference in someone's life."

Visit http://www.morainevalley.edu for more information.

Crestwood Village Attorney clarifies citizen response

by Jan Glaz

Trustee James Fowler, in the absence of Mayor Robert Stranczek, served as Mayor Pro Tem on March 7th at the Village of Crestwood Board of Trustees Meeting. Fowler announced that the Village attorney clarified a citizen inquiry, from a previous meeting, regarding why the public comments were suspended from the rules of order and not recorded. The resident believed that by law public participation should be recorded. The Village Attorney David B. Sosin stated to Trustee Fowler that the Village Clerk is not under any responsibility to record, or keep a record of the public comment portion of the Village Meeting. Fowler added, "Any further discussion of the subject may be taken up with the village attorney."

Noteworthy: It was reported that the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) of Greater Chicago is currently designing a floodwater improvement project along Tinley Creek between Central Avenue and Illinois Route 83 in Crestwood. The benefits of this project include protecting existing structures from flooding, addressing critical streambank erosion, and possibly reducing flood insurance premiums for homeowners. This project will improve the flow of floodwater by widening the channel 2,000 feet downstream of Central Avenue, and it is estimated that 173 structures will no longer be in the Federal Emergency Management Agency regulatory floodplain. Construction is expected to start in 2014 and will take approximately 12 months to complete. Please contact Jonathan Grabowy, MWRD Senior Civil Engineer at 312-751-4015 with questions regarding this project.

Message from Carl Stegner

I'm gracious to the great citizens of Oak Forest, IL, in allowing me, Carl Stegner, 61, to run for city clerk. As city clerk and appointee of city collector/human resource director, I would first reduce my salary from $105,000 to $70,000, giving most of the reduction to the food pantry and other charities from the City of Oak Forest. I would encourage promoting within dept. and Oak Forest residency. I will have an open door policy for ALL Oak Forest residents, listening to what the residents/taxpayers want and their needs. I will negotiate contracts in good faith for Oak Forest residents and try to hire companies from Oak Forest. With my vast background in mortgage lending, appraising, underwriting and management in the private sector, I'll negotiate the best for you in reducing 3 cents per gal. gasoline tax, sales tax and utility tax which the city now imposes. I'll be vigilant in employment salaries and reducing city used vehicles. Our pension fund is in a defiect of $32,000,000. I'll aggressively seek out new businesses in a swift way by producing a video and deseminating it amongst the leading realtors nationwide. I attended Lincoln-Way H.S, Joliet Junior College, Northern Univ, Governor's State, and Graham School of Bus (St. Xav's) Anyone who is interested in a sign or having a tea, please contact me at 708-224-9111.

Get free health screenings info and more at SXU's 10th Annual Health Fair

Fair is scheduled for Friday, March 22.

Free health screenings, assessments, and information are available at Saint Xavier University's Tenth Annual Health Fair on Fri., March 22. The fair, which is free and open to the public, is scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Shannon Center at the University's Chicago campus, 3700 W. 103rd St.

The Fair, which drew more than 500 attendees last year, is a "one-stop shop" of free health services. It includes free screenings and assessments for the following: blood pressure, blood glucose, bone density, hearing and vision, feet, spinal cord, injuries, cholesterol, stress, body mass index, and more.

The Fair also includes a wide variety of other activities, including:

- Free chair massages.
- Healthy cooking demonstrations at 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., and 12:30 p.m.
- 15-Minute Exercise Classes featuring Chair Yoga (9 a.m. and 10 a.m.), Beginner Strength Training (11 a.m.), and Zumba (noon and 1 p.m.).
- Comprehensive kidney screening (which includes analysis of blood pressure, sodium, calcium, glucose, liver, and more) for $25 per person. Call (773) 298-3592 for more information and to pre-register.
- A Blood Drive hosted by Heartland Blood Centers. If you are interested in donating blood, please pre-register by calling (773) 298-3592. Receive a $5 Dunkin Donuts gift card when you donate!
- Demonstrations on Child and adult CPR, pilates, spinning, CrossFit, acupuncture and more.
- A raffle, as well as a children's activity corner and face painting.

Neighborhood vendors will be at the fair to share health information with the community, including: Accelerated Rehab Physical Therapy; Advanced Eyecare Professionals, PC; Advocate Christ Center for Breast Care; American Cancer Society; American Heart Association; American Kidney Fund; Blue Cross Blue Shield/Mid American Group; Chartwells Energy Zone; Chicago Department of Public Health; Chicago Foot and Ankle; Chiro One Wellness Center; Christ Hospital Cardiac and Stroke Prevention; Cook County Department of Public Health; Core Fitness and Physical Therapy/Beverly Spinning; CrossFit Beverly; Curves; CVS Pharmacy and Minute Clinic; Family Eye Physicians; Great Lakes Health and Wellness; Greenwood Chiropractic Clinic; Heartland Blood Centers; Home Instead Senior Care; Illinois Secretary of State Organ and Tissue Donor Registration; MetroSouth Medical Center; Oak Ridge Family Dental; Overeaters Anonymous; Palos Health & Fitness Center; Reliv International; Running Excels; Running for Kicks; Running Excels; Rush Alzheimer's Disease Center; Sam's Club; Tricoci University; and Walgreens.

Representatives from across SXU also will be at the fair, including the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, the Ludden Speech Language Clinic, the Health Center, the School of Nursing, SXU Nutrition Classes, and Shannon Center trainers.

Free samples and refreshments will be served from the following vendors: 5 Hour Energy; Chartwells; Gatorade; Great American Bagel; Honest Tea; Muscle Milk; Starbucks; and Subway.

For more information, please call (773) 298-3592 or visit www.sxu.edu, keyword: health fair.

Bremen Township Assessor new position

The Assessors' Office of Bremen Township announces that Assessor Grace A Bardusk has accepted a position of Executive Board Member of the Cook County Township Assessors' Association. This organization has a history of being an effective advocate for Cook County Residential tax payers. For several decades the C.C.T.A.A. has worked diligently, and without partisanship, to clarify, educate, and correct residential property tax issues for their constituents.

"I want to thank my peers and the current board for this nomination. I look forward to representing all Residents of Bremen Township" said Assessor Bardusk. I've worked diligently over the past term to provide Bremen Residents with tax appeal out reach programs and to assist Residents in appealing their property assessed values successfully."

Congressman Dan Lipinski (center back row) is CPOJ Candidates: Ed Rusch, Kathy Svoboda, Kris Wasowicz, Hank Oszakiewski, and Melanie Kuban.

A message from the Coalition Party of Justice

The Coalition Party of Justice (CPOJ) is pleased to announce their slate of five candidates has received an endorsement from Congressman Dan Lipinski of the 3rd IL Congressional District. Justice and all the southwest suburban communities in Cook and part of Will Counties are included in the 3rd IL Congressional District. The CPOJ candidates thank Congressman Lipinski for his endorsement and support in the upcoming, April 9, 2013 municipal elections.

In the last 2 years, the Coalition Party has focused on getting the Village of Justice operating budget on firm ground and with a positive balance. Village residents now enjoy a budget with a surplus.

In the last 2 years, the Coalition Party has focused on street improvements, without burdening our residents with any special assessments. Roberts Park and Chief Trailer Park Streets have been resurfaced. The Village of Justice has received a $2.6m grant from the State of Illinois that will provide complete street reconstruction and resurfacing to 4 village streets. The empty gas storage tanks at 86th Avenue and Archer Road will be removed and the entire 75th Street/86th Avenue/Archer Road property will be redesigned as part of the street grant. A two-year Frontage Road street project will provide curbs, gutters, sewers, base, surfacing, lighting and streetscape as part of this project.

In the last 2 years, the Coalition Party has gained the respect of village residents who regularly attend board meetings, because elected officials listen to residents needs, questions and recommendations. Area Town Hall Meetings were scheduled to also receive resident's feedback.

In the last 2 years, the Coalition Party participated in all the Village of Justice Centennial activities that celebrated our anniversary of 100 years of our existence. We enjoyed meeting new neighbors, both during planning centennial events and during the events themselves, to appreciate each other's likes and differences, but also to unite as one coalition, in celebrating our 100 years.

In the last 2 years, the Coalition Party has provided many improvements for residents including contracting with First Energy for electric Aggregation, providing Justice residents with up to 50% reduced electricity rate each month, over our original Commonwealth Edison rates.

Congressman Dan Lipinski recognizes these improvements and more that the Coalition Party has achieved in the past 2 years; and that these improvements have not added any additional financial burden to our residents.

The five Coalition Party candidates are supported and endorsed by the current VOJ trustees Sue Small, Rich Sparr, and Rick Symonds. Together we will all "Continue on the Road to Progress, Service and Balance".

Happy Easter from all of us at Village View Publications

Village View Publication, Inc.
708-425-1910
Fax: 1-708-221-6663
vvnew@sbcglobal.net
www.vvnew.com

Owner/Editor/Publisher Annette Dixon
Published on the first and third Tuesday of every month. Press releases and ads are to be e-mailed to vvnew@sbcglobal.net

We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

Worth Township Community First Party announces tax rebate for all township homeowners

The Worth Township Community First Party announces that they will give homeowners a 15% tax rebate when elected. The one-time 15% rebate checks will be issued to the homeowners of Wortb Township from the amount they pay to Worth Township in property taxes. Supervisor candidate Kevin Hughes stated, "Seeing what the Township has in revenue surplus, why should the Township just sit on it, it belongs to the taxpayers. We want to immediately give it back to to the taxpayers, it's theirs." The party also announced with their leadership, they will be able to launch a Veterans Assistance Program for the Township, as well as an Rx take-away service. They will also work with each of the municipalities to collaborate on shared resources to receive the best prices on supplies such as road salt and asphalt. This will benefit both the township and the municipalities. "We know we can offer more services to Township than the current government is offering today." Hughes added.

The Community First Party platform is:

Term Limits (2 terms) for elected officials

Suspension of pensions for elected officials

Salaries frozen for elected officials of Worth Township

The Candidates of the Worth Township Community First Party:

Kevin M. Hughes for Supervisor

Katie Elwood for Clerk

John H. Dietrick for Assessor

Edward Moody for Highway Commissioner

Patrick J. Hanlon for Trustee

Eamon McMahon for Trustee

Richard J. Lewandowski for Trustee

Theresa M. Roche for Trustee

Andy's Thin Mint Concrete benefits Oak Lawn Girl Scout Troop

When Andy's Frozen Custard places "Thin Mint Concrete" in bold letters on its seasonal treat menu, not only do customers enjoy this cookie-filled confection, Oak Lawn Girl Scouts benefit as well as Andy's purchases its supply of cookies locally from Girl Scout troop 60840.

"As a company, we purchase all of the Thin Mint cookies locally as a way to support area Girl Scout troops," said Andy Kuntz, president of Andy's Frozen Custard. "Our store managers normally obtain their supply of cookies from relatives or friends whose daughters are selling Girl Scout cookies. We then place an order for what is normally the troop's largest single sale of cookies."

Andy's Frozen Custard purchases 3,500 boxes of Thin Mint cookies annually for its Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas and Texas locations. With 30 cookies in each box, Andy's serves more than 100,000 Thin Mint cookies in its specialty concrete.

Andy's added the confection to its seasonal line-up in 2004. The concrete joins the menu beginning in mid-February with availability until the end of March or until supplies of the minty cookies last. The company's James River location in Springfield, MO sells the most Thin Mint concretes – 10,000 in a five to six-week period.

"We're pleased to assist local Girl Scouts with their fundraising efforts and offer Andy's fans a special treat they're sure to enjoy," added Kuntz.

For additional information on Andy's Frozen Custard, please visit www.eatandys.com.

Rep. Lipinski announces 2013 Congressional Art Competition

Rep. Dan Lipinski (IL-3) is inviting high school students from the 3rd Congressional District to participate in the 2013 Congressional Art Competition. The winning piece will be displayed in the Capitol complex in Washington, D.C., for visitors to view for the next year. The winner also receives two roundtrip tickets to Washington for the exhibition opening this summer. The runner-up will have their artwork displayed in Rep. Lipinski's Washington office for one year.

The competition is open to all students in grades 9 through 12 who reside in the 3rd Congressional District. Entries must be received at Rep. Lipinski's district offices in Chicago at 6245 S. Archer Ave.; Oak Lawn at 5309 W. 95th St.; Orland Park at 14700 Ravinia Ave.; and Lockport at 222. E. 9th St. A high-resolution file also may be emailed to krsto.culafic@mail.house.gov.

Artwork, which also includes photography and computer-generated art, must be received no later than April 15. Interested students should submit one original piece of two-dimensional work no bigger than 28 inches by 28 inches by 4 inches when framed.

For more information, including contest guidelines and student information and release forms, visit www.lipinski.house.gov/congressional-art-competition, or call the congressman's Chicago office at 312-886-0481.

"Every year when reviewing entries for Congressional Art Competition, I am amazed by the talent and imagination of the students in our district," Rep. Lipinski said. "I encourage all students, parents and teachers to urge young artists to share their artwork for the 2013 competition. I am excited to see what our next generation of artists comes up with this year."

The Congressional Art Competition began in 1982 to provide an opportunity for members of Congress to encourage and recognize the artistic talents of their young constituents. Last year, Abigail Best, of La Grange, was chosen as the winner from the 3rd Congressional District. Her winning piece, Time Part IV, is currently one of those featured on the Congressional Art Competition website, www.conginst.org/art-competition.

Oak Lawn COC and Johnson-Phelps VFW Post 5220 annual Blood Drive

The Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce and Johnson Phelps VFW Post 5220 will host a blood drive on Saturday, March 30th from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, 9514 S. 52nd Ave. Oak Lawn, Main Room. To schedule your appointment please contact: LifeSource at (877) 543-3768 or register online at www.lifesource.org and use sponsor code: VFWS0R30 Appointments Recommended. Pprepare for your donation. Eat well, stay hydrated and bring your ID.

All participating blood donors will receive a free breakfast compliments of the VFW.

Donating blood can give a lifetime of memories.

Founded in 1946, today the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce consists of more than 300 members. The Chamber of Commerce works to represent and advance the Oak Lawn business community, striving with constant integrity, fairness and cooperation to promote and improve the economic atmosphere, business climate and image of Oak Lawn. Learn more about the Chamber at www.oaklawnchamber.com.

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Marian Madness NCAA Tournament Basketball Event slated for March 23rd

The Eleventh Annual Marian Catholic Athletic and Alumni Association Fundraiser.

The excitement of March Madness will be palpable at Marian Catholic High School's eleventh annual Marian Madness NCAA Tournament celebration on Saturday, March 23, 2013, in the Sr. M. Paul McCaughey, O.P. Leadership Center. The event will feature the Men's NCAA contests broadcast live on four 60-inch plasma screens and a 12 feet by 12 feet mega screen.

The $30 ticket price includes an all-evening buffet catered by Aurelio's of Homewood, open beer and wine bar, and desserts. The 21-and older event will also feature a raffle with a $3,000 grand prize cash raffle, games of chance and several exciting silent auction packages will add to the fun.

"Marian Madness is a great opportunity for old friends and new to get together and enjoy an affordable evening out, in a familiar place," said James Schreiber '81. "The Leadership Center provides an exciting environment to watch the games. Supporting Marian's mission by attending this fun event is also a big plus."

Marian Madness is co-sponsored by Marian Athletics and the MCHS Alumni Association. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. for those 21-and older.

For ticket information, call Pat Trebe, Annual Programs Manager at 708-756-9405 or refer to the Marian Catholic website, www.marianchs.com.

MetroSouth Medical Center opens two new Outpatient Health Centers in Beverly

MetroSouth Medical Center (MSMC) is making health care even more convenient for Southland residents. Recently the hospital opened two of its newest health centers, both in the historic Beverly / Morgan Park community. These new health centers will improve access to primary care and women's health care services.

Metro South Health Center at North Beverly, located at 2038 W. 95th Street, will focus exclusively on women's health provided by OB/GYN specialists, Allan Ruby, M.D., F.A.C.O.G and Christal West, M.D., F.A.C.O.G.The renovated, beautifully appointed facility is 4,300 square feet and features nine patient rooms, full handicap accessibility, a comfortable patient waiting area, a procedure room, onsite lab and convenient parking.

Dr. Ruby and Dr. West each have over 15 years of experience. They specialize in the care of women, including gynecologic exams, prenatal care and surgical procedures. Both physicians are specially trained in robotic surgery, which utilizes minimally invasive techniques for procedures such as hysterectomies.

MetroSouth Health Center at West Beverly, located at 11250 S. Western Avenue, has long been the site of the offices of Robert Dolehide, M.D. and Kevin Dolehide, M.D. This brand new, contemporary facility spans7,000 square feet and includes 12 patient rooms, a large waiting area, easy access and ample parking.

Working alongside each other for 20 years, the Dolehide father-son physician team has a strong bond not only with each other, but also with the Beverly / Morgan Park community. Dr. Robert Dolehide specializes in internal medicine; Dr. KevinDolehide is double board-certified in internal medicine and gastroenterology. They will be joined by medical team member, HamdiKhilfeh, M.D.an internal medicine physician and an independent member of the MetroSouth Medical Center medical staff.

Call to request a free 15-minute "getting to know you" session to find the physician that's right for you. To schedule an appointment at the MetroSouth Health Center at North Beverly, specializing in women's health, call 773-239-8303. To schedule an appointment at the MetroSouth Health Center at West Beverly, specializing in internal medicine, family medicine and gastroenterology, call 773-779-7500. To learn more, visit www.metrosouthmedicalcenter.com.

Evergreen Park Recreation Department events

Registration is ongoing

Family Easter Happenings

Have a continental breakfast with the Easter Bunny. Bring your camera. Make and take a craft project, watch some Easter cartoons, decorate an egg, and have alot of family fun! Resident children babies through 11 year olds. Saturday, March 23, from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. at the Community Center, 3450 West 97th Street. This is a FREE event, all children must be accompanied by an adult.

Wiffle T-Ball. Boys & Girls, ages 3 to 5 years, Wednesdays, or Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. or Saturdays at 10:00 a.m. Location: Activity Center Fee: $50.00 for 6 weeks, starting week of April 17th.

Tumbling. Boys and Girls, ages 4yrs. and up. Tuesdays starting April 16th for 6 weeks. Location: Activity Center, Fee: 4 & 5 yr. olds, 45 minute classes $45.00, 6 & up, 60 minute classes $50.00.

Boot Camp

Be prepared to use military style training for the best body ever. This class is for all fitness levels. Jump, squat, run, press, lift and sweat your way to a new shape. Location: Activity Center. Days Offered: Mon., Thursday and Saturday Time: 8 to 9 a.m. Fee $50.00 for 10 classes.

Mom or Dad Morning Out

Drop your child/children off at the Recreation Department's nursery. Monday, Wednesday, & Fridays from 9:00 to 12:00 noon. Fee: $5.00 per hour for 1 child, $7.50 per hour for children, $10.00 per hour for 3 children. Fee is based on 1 hour increments.

Evergreen Park Recreation Department is located at 3450 West 97th Street. For more information, call (708) 229-3373, email epreerection@yahoo.com or visit evergreenpark-ill.com.

Smith Village raffle raises $1,655 for Emilie's Fund

Smith Village life enrichment facilitators Meghan Leonard (left) and Emily Eisinas welcome support from the continuing care retirement community's resident Bill Rus during a raffle they organized to benefit Emilie's Fund for residents who outlive their means. Thanks to the generosity of residents and staff members who donated 14 gift baskets, works of art, autographed Bears jerseys and more, they raised $1,655. Smith Village, at 2320 W. 113th Place in Chicago's Beverly neighborhood, offers resort-style retirement living with apartments and appealing common areas for residents at all levels of care. Both Leonard and Eisinas, residents of the Beverly/Mount Greenwood area, graduated with bachelor's degrees in family and consumer science from Northern Illinois University. They are currently enrolled in a gerontology certificate program at Moraine Valley Community College.

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Celebrate Easter at The Presbyterian Church in Orland Park

Celebrate a Ceremonial Passover Seder Thursday, March 28th at 7:30 p.m.

Worship Service & Communion

Messiah in the Passover begins with the traditional ceremonial Passover Seder table, complete with all the articles of this important Jewish celebration. The speaker will explain the symbolic meanings of the various items of the Passover feast and highlight their relationship to the Last Supper that Messiah celebrated with the disciples, giving special emphasis on the redemptive significance of the crucifixion.

Holy Week Activities

Passion/Palm Sunday March 24, 2013, Worship Service 10:00

We will celebrate Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, and remember Christ's passion. Our Celebration Singers will enhance the worship service with spiritual music of the season accompanied with trumpet. This Sunday, the One Great Hour of Sharing will be received.

Our children will begin the service with a parade of palms and the Sunday School children will be playing chimes.

Maundy Thursday March 28, 2013, 7:30 p.m. Service

On Maundy Thursday, celebrates with a ceremonial Passover seder. The Passion of our Lord will be celebrated through music, scripture, meditation and the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

Easter Sunday March 31, 2013, 8:30 a.m. Easter Breakfast Hosted by Men's Club

The Men's Club will sponsor and serve their Annual Easter Breakfast. Please come and begin this special day with breakfast at church.

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Easter is the highest day in the church year. It is the most important day for us as Christians. Our Sunday School children will be singing; and our Celebration Singers and Celebration Ringers, accompanied by trumpet, will be performing the Hallelujah Chorus as part of this spiritual day.

10:15 a.m. Sunday School

The Easter message will be delivered to the children of our congregation in a manner in which they will all understand its importance.

11:00 a.m. Fellowship Time

Enjoy refreshments with the members of our church family.

The Presbyterian Church in Orland Park is located at 13401 South Wolf Road, Orland Par , Illinois, call 708 448-8142 for more information.

Come join us at St. Mark

St. Mark would like to invite those who need to find peace through God and his Love to join us for Worship, all is welcome.

Every Sunday Services are 8:00am, 9:30am & 10:45am

Wednesday March 20th Healing Prayer and the laying of hands

Times Services are 10:00 am or 7:00pm

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday March 24th 8:00 am- 9:30am-10:45am with the Serendipity Choir singing at the beginning of all services with Palms.

Thursday March 28th Maundy Thursday Services- 10 am & 7 pm

A taste of Seder after the 10 am service and the Full Seder Meal after the 7 pm service.

Friday March 29th Good Friday Children's Event 10 am (ages 3 to 10 years old)

Other Good Friday services will be held on March 29th at 1pm & 7pm.

Easter Sunday with Communion for those who can part take and those who are too young for communion will receive a Blessing. Hours for Easter Services are the same as every Sunday 8:00 am, 9:30 am and 10:45am.

Note: Easter week the will be no Wednesday Service during Holy week.

For more information call 708-448-6555 or or visit www.stmarkworth.org. St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church is located at 11007th Ave., Worth.

Things to do in Evergreen Park

March for Meg 5k Run/Walk

Saturday, March 30

Klein Park, 97th and Homan Ave. Early Registration, $30 ($65 for Family 5K Walk).

Fundraiser for Meg Moonan Endowment for Melanoma Research at Advocate Christ Hospital. Register at www.march4meg.com

Annual St. Bernadette Fish Fry / Bake Sale

Friday, March 22, from 5pm-7pm at O'Brien Hall, Adults $8, Seniors $6, Child $4.

St. Patrick's / St. Joseph Party

Saturday, March 23 at 7:30pm at St. Bernadette, O'Brien Hall.

"Sean and Charlie" play at 9pm. Tickets $20 pre-sale, $25 at the door.

Park District to host open mic night on March 23

Improvisational Comedy Troupes and local performers take the stage in Tinley Park.

Those wanting to showcase their talents and performing abilities will be able to during the Tinley Park-Park District's Comedy Improv and Open Mic Night on Saturday, March 23 at the Tinley Park Performing Arts Center. The show starts at 7 p.m.

Kidz on the Bridge and Graffiti on the Fourth Wall Comedy Troupes will begin the show, and then the floor will be open to anyone wishing to share their talents. Stand-up comedians, singers, actors, instrumentalists; any type of performance can grace the stage at this popular event. All material must be family friendly, as this is an all-ages show.

Tickets for the show are $7.00 and will be sold at the door the night of the performance, or at the Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center from March 18-22. Interested performers should contact Melissa Olejarz at (708)342-4200, as limited spots for performers are available.

Village of Worth looking for vendors

The Village of Worth is looking for vendors for their new Farmers and Flea Market this spring and summer. The events start in April and run through October every third Sunday of the month.

For information please call the Village of Worth at 708 448 1181 or email Rich Dziedzic at rdziedeic@villageofworth.com or Kevin Ryan at kryan@villageofworth.com.

Fees are $85 for the entire season or $20 for the first, $15 each afterwards.

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City of Oak Forest briefs

Voting information

Oak Forest residents, who are planning to vote in the April 9 municipal election, Early voting begins March 25 at City Hall.

Rotary accepting scholarship applications through March 29.

The Rotary Club of Oak Forest is now accepting scholarship applications from graduating seniors who will be attending a college or trade school in the fall of 2013. The $1000 scholarship will be awarded to two individuals, who reside in Oak Forest, graduate from any of the surrounding high schools and have demonstrated outstanding "Service Above Self" to others. Applications are available in school guidance offices and at www.oakforestrotary.org.

Register to be a part of the Citywide Garage Sale on May 17 and May 18.

Spring is on its way! It's time to clean out those closets, have a little fun and earn some extra cash. If you are interested in being a part of the Citywide Garage Sale, please fill out and return the registration form by May 10.

Master the iPad in Moraine Valley course

Due to overwhelming demand, Moraine Valley Community College has added two sections of the "Working with the iPad" class. The one-day classes will be Thursday, March 7, and Wednesday, April 3, from 6 to 9:30 p.m. The cost to attend is $45.

This class demonstrates insanely cool tips and techniques to help participants get better use and enjoyment out of their iPad in the classroom, business and at home. When participants have been asked, "What about this course is most useful to you?" the response has been, "All of it!"

For more information about the class, contact Corporate, Community and Continuing Education at (708) 974-5735 or visit morainevalley.edu/ccce.

Register today in person at the Registration Office, located in S125 on campus, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills, or by calling (708) 974-2110 (TTY for the hearing impaired 708-974-9556). Participants also can register online at morainevalley.edu by selecting "Register for Noncredit Classes" under Academic Focus then "Search, register and pay for noncredit classes."

Are you having a Sale?
Do you give a Senior discounts?
Or maybe just having a Event?
It is time to advertise at low rates.
Call Linda for details, at 708-425-1910.

Jerling Jr. High sixth grade student Laura Kilikevicius gathers scrap materials for her entry.

District 135 students Upcycle garbage into art

District 135 junior high students are "upcycling" recycled materials as part of the Rethink, Recycle, Recreate art contest hosted by the Orland Park Recreation Department's Smart Living Department. Upcycling is the process of converting old or discarded materials into a useful or beautiful form. Newspapers, water bottles, magazines and other scrap materials are just some of the items students are using to create one, two and three dimensional designs. Eligible entries must exclusively use recycled or scrap materials along with the use of fastener materials such as glue, twine and tape. All entries must be submitted by April 17th and will be judged by the Village of Orland Park Art Commission. Winning projects will be on display at the Village Hall April 29-May 3, 2013. Students from Century, Jerling and Orland junior highs will be participating in the contest.

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Lincoln historian George Buss with De La Salle students Demetrius Brown and Carmelo Cianflone

De La Salle Institute welcomes Abraham Lincoln historian George Buss

De La Salle Institute recently welcomed Abraham Lincoln historian and expert George Buss to its Institute Campus for Young Men. While there, Buss, who was portraying the 16th President of the United States, performed a speech and also led discussions and a question-and-answer session with the students while in character.

Buss is a sixth-generation Illinoisan whose family came to Illinois the same year Abraham Lincoln was elected to Congress (1847). He is a native of Freeport, Illinois and serves on the Board of Directors of the Stephen Douglas Association of Chicago (an organization for which he is also a past president), the Lincoln Fellowship of Wisconsin, and the Lincoln-Douglas Society of Freeport. He is also a charter member of the Lincoln Forum.

Through over 20 years of research on Lincoln, Douglas, and the politics of the 1850s, Buss has collected a considerable library of speeches, letters and documents produced not only by Lincoln and Douglas, but their contemporaries in both Houses of Congress, material that forms the foundation for his presentations.

He has been appearing as Abraham Lincoln since 1989, when a friend authored the script, "A Discussion with President Lincoln and Judge Douglas." Over that time, Buss has portrayed Lincoln many times for many audiences, including the Cleveland Civil War Roundtable back in 2004.

De La Salle thanks Buss for all the expertise and insight he provided to its students during his visit.

Fish Fry Fridays at Stony Creek Clubhouse

Fish Fry Fridays

Come in to Stony Creek Clubhouse and relax by our beautiful fireplace while you enjoy our All-You-Can-Eat Buffet: Corona battered cod, corn, wild rice, salad, rolls, butter, and dessert. coffee und hot tea included. A shrimp dinner/ baked tilapia/walleye dinner will also be available for $14.99. Additional non-meat options available. Cash Bar. Tax and gratuity not included.

Every Friday threw March 29 (Good Friday)

Buffet 5:00pm to 8:00pm, $10.99 for Adult $5.99/Child (10years & Under). Open Seat, Walk-Ins Welcome.

For more information on Stony Creek Clubhouse events, please call 708-398-6284 or email mgrana@olparks.com.

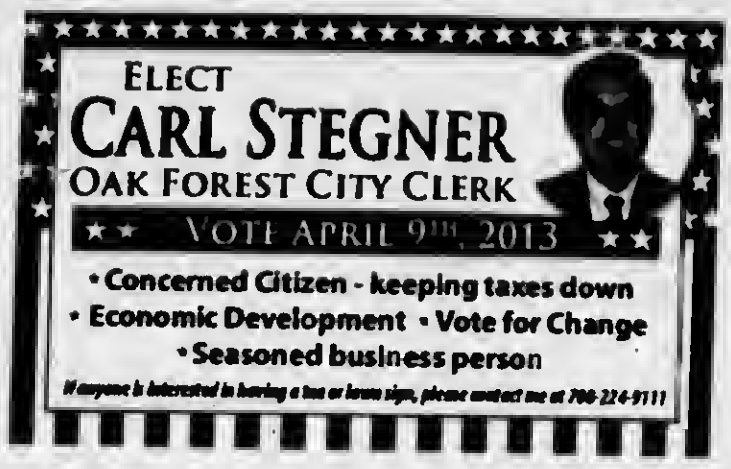
Midlothian Garden Walk applications

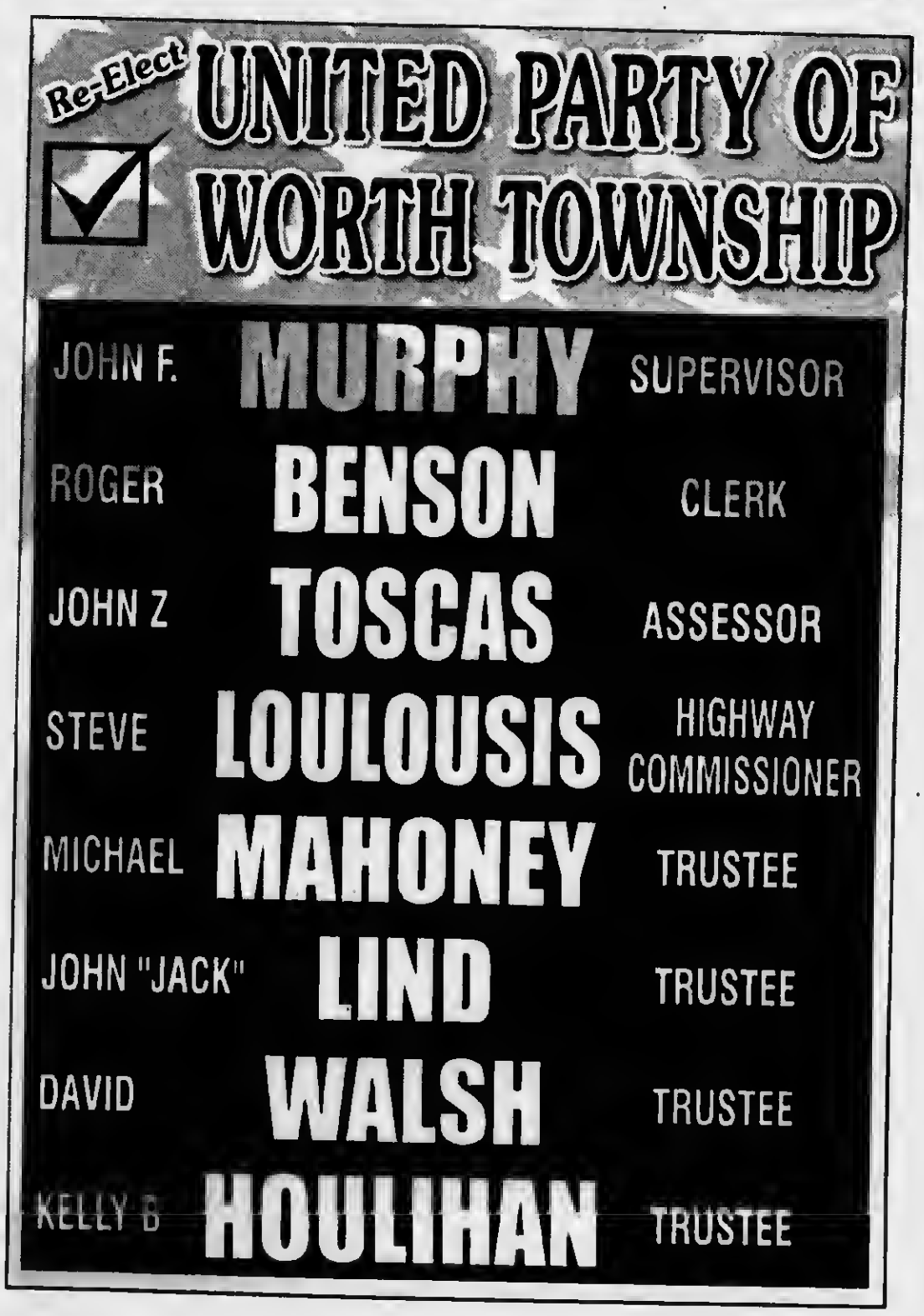
Spring is in the air! While you're waiting for your spring flowers to appear, take time out to sign up for the 2nd Annual Village of Midlothian's Annual Garden Walk being held on Sunday, June 30th. The registration forms are available at the Midlothian Village Hall or online at www.villageofmidlothian.net. Last year's walk was a great success with 15 beautiful homes participating. Why not showcase your hard work in the garden this year?

Spanish language storytime at Midlothian Public Library

Language Stars of Orland Park/Palos Park will present a Spanish language storytime at the Midlothian Public Library on Monday, March 25, from 10:30-11:30 a.m. This presentation is for kids of all ages, both Spanish and non-Spanish speakers.

Please register online at www.midlothianlibrary.org. The library is located at 14701 S. Kenton Ave., Midlothian.





Softball leagues forming in Blue Island

Sign up today for another exciting season of Girls Fast-Pitch Softball! This program is based on developing the fundamental skills of throwing, catching, hitting and pitching through repetition at practice. This is a great opportunity for players to prepare for the high school level as they learn important skills such as teamwork and good sportsmanship while having a great time competing.

All games played at nearby fields as determined by the South Suburban Girls Athletic League (SSGAL). Ages 7 to 14yrs are welcome. Birth Certificates are required. Players will receive uniforms, awards and an end of season pool party.

Dates: April 1st through June 30th

Practices Times: 6:00pm to 8:00pm

10 and under: Program #140002

12 and under: Program #140003

14 and under: Program #140004

Ages: 7-14yrs old

Memorial Park, Price: $85

Men's 12" Softball League

The time is here for another exciting and competitive season of Men's 12" Softball. Our league will be played on Tuesday and Thursday evenings in either Historic Hart Park Stadium or the newly renovated Centennial Park. Lock in your team by registering soon.Team registration includes: games, playoffs, balls, umpires: und cash payouts!!!

Contact the recreation department for more details: 708-388-6421 or bisoftball@blueislandparks.org

Tuesdays & Thursdays on April 23rd through June 13th at Hart Park. Team Price $625.

Call for more information Blue Island Park Distrct, at 708-985-3304 or visit our website at www.blueislandparks.org.

Oak Forest Park District events

The Oak Forest Park District is hosting our First Annual Craft Fair, Sunday, April 28th 10:00am to 3:00pm at the Central Park Gymnasium located at 15601 South Central Avenue. Oak Forest Illinois 60452.

The Oak Forest Park District, 15601 Central Ave, is offering an Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 23rd at the Central Park Pavilion. Meet 15 minutes before your designated hunt time. No registration necessary. Children may find a maximum of 6 eggs. Bring your camera and come see the Easter Bunny. Ages 2 and under 12:30pm, 3 yrs old 1:00pm, 4-5 years old 1:30pm and grades 1 to 3 2:00pm. For more info, call Kevin @ (708)- 687-7270 x117.

Check us out online @ www.oakforestparks.org.

Green Hills Public Library events

Heartland Blood Center will be hosting u blood drive at the Library. A photo ID is required. For more information or to schedule your appointment, please call the Information Desk at (708) 598-8446 ext. 120 or Courtney at (708) 342-9722. Friday, March 22nd from 12:00-3:00pm.

Meet & Greet Your Legislators!

Join us at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, March 26th to meet State Senator Elect Bill Cunningham and State Representative Kelly Burke. As of this writing we are attempting to schedule State Representative Mary Flowers and State Senator Jacqueline Collins. Registration required.

Family Bingo

Families are invited to play bingo with us and win prizes! Also, partake in some trivia between rounds to win prizes. Everyone is a winner! All ages are welcome. Registration is limited to 40. Thursday, March 28th at 6:00pm. Registration required.

Library Closed

The Library will be closed on Sunday, March 31st.

Midlothian Park District Easter activities

The Midlothian Park District will be celebrating Easter in fun and creative ways this year, so come out and join the fun! One of the many activities we huve planned is the Bunny Breakfast. This will be held at the Raday Lodge on Saturday, March 23 at 9:00 a.m. Tickets will be sold at the Midlothian Park District for only of $6.00.

Another event we will be hosting is the Bone Hunt for Dogs. This event will be at the T-Ball Fields at the Recreation Center on Saturday, March 23 at 12:00 p.m. Dogs will be searching for bones and everyone will go home with a "doggie bag." There is a fee of $8.00 (per dog) for residents and a $10.00 (per dog) fee for non-residents.

We will also be having an event for all ages to color Easter eggs. EGG-cellent Eggs will be at the Recreation Center on Wednesday, March 27 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. There is a fee of $8.00 (per 6 eggs) for residents and $10.00 (per 6 eggs) for non-residents. You must be registered for this event by March 20.

Last but not least, we have our Easter Bunny Photos. Come tuke a picture with the Easter Bunny at the Midlothian Park District on Monday, March 25 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. You can bring your own camera to tuke pictures or you can purchase one from us for only $3.00. No sign up is needed. Feel free to walk in during the time period.

Call for more details or information about all our events and programs at (708) 371-6191, or visit us On Line.

St. Rita teacher Josh Blaszak names rising star in mathematics in Chicago

The Board of Mathematics Teachers' Association of Chicago has named St. Rita High School faculty member, Josh Blaszak '02, as a Rising Star for math teachers.

Blaszak, a resident of Bridgeport, has been teaching at St. Rita, his alma mater, since 2008. Blaszak is a graduate of Merrimack College located in North Andover, MA where he received a bachelor's degree in Mathematics. Upon graduation he brought his skills to Philadelphia where he became an Augustinian Volunteer helping with various non-profit organizations including being the program coordinator for the Augustinian Defenders of the Right of the Poor.

In 2008, Blaszak returned to his home town and his high school to become a mathematics teacher, something that was very close to his heart. "I owed so much to St. Rita, they gave me such an appreciation for math," Blaszak stated. "My goal is to now share the gifts I have been given with the young Ritamen I teach." Blaszak currently teaches freshmen algebra and advanced placement calculus, and while being on two ends of the spectrum, Blaszak loves the diverse nature of his classroom. "I get to teach the students as soon us they walk in the door as freshmen and right before they head to college; it's pretty rewarding witnessing them mature in the classroom and their lives as well."

The Rising Star Award is given out annually and each recipient must be nominated by a member of the high school. Assistant Principal, Joe Partaez, nominated Blaszak for this award because of his dedication to math, but more importantly, his dedication to his students. "I feel that Josh has come a long way in his teaching," Partaez said. "He is an outstanding math teacher who cares about his students and their success in mathematics. It was an honor to recommend him for the Rising Star award."

Blaszak and three other recipients of this award will be honored at the Mathematics Teachers' Association Board Spring Dinner Meeting held on April 10th at Nazareth Academy.

While Josh may be a standout mathematics teacher, he has touched the lives of young Ritamen in many different areas. He has served as the Director of Alumni and the Director of Public Relations. He has moderated the school newspaper, the math team, and was the freshmen class moderator. Currently, Josh holds the roles of Assistant Director of Student Activities, Director of Kairos Retreats, and is the junior class moderator.

While Josh seems to spend every waking moment in the halls of St. Rita High School, he has found time to further his education. In August of 2012, Blaszak received his Masters in Education Leadership from the University of St. Francis.

School principal, Brendan Conroy, speaks for the entire St. Rita family when he says, "We are lucky to have Josh," but it is Blaszak who feels lucky. "Being a Mathematics teacher, especially at St. Rita, is truly one of the greatest blessings in my life. Each day I enter the classroom I can honestly say I love doing what I do."

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Porchlight Music Theatre presents the Beguiling Broadway classic Pal Joey

Porchlight Music Theatre is proud to present Pal Joey, book by John O'Hara. April 20 to May 26, 2013 at Stage 773, 1225 West Belmont Ave.

Pal Joey stars Adrian Aguilar, "Joey Evans," Susie McMonagle, "Vera Simpson," Laura Savage, "Linda English," Matt Orlando, "Ludlow Lowell" and Sharriese Hamilton, "Gladys Bumps." Previews are Saturday, April 20, 2013 at 8 p.m., Sunday, April 21, 2013 at 2 and 6 p.m. and Monday, April 22, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.

The regular run schedule is Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 4 and 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are $30 for previews and $39 for all other performances. Groups of ten or more may receive discounts on tickets purchased via the Groups Sales office at 773.777.9884. Single tickets for Pal Joey are on sale now and may be purchased at stage773.com or by phone at 773.327.5252.

Pal Joey, the O'Hara, Rodgers & Hart masterpiece introduced the world to the first anti-hero to propel a musical and features one of the greatest American musical scores including "I Could Write a Book," "You Mustn't Kick it Around," "Zip" and "Bewitched, Bothered and Bewildered." The plot, based on the short stories by The New Yorker columnist John O'Hara, focuses on the dirty deeds done by the charming cad Joey Evans (Adrian Aguilar) newly arrived in the Windy City having just been run out of St. Louis. Starting a new job at a seedy south side Chicago nightclub, Joey is soon juggling the affections of a naive shop girl (Laura Savage) and a married, wealthy society dame (Susie McMonagle), as well as sparring with an unscrupulous chorus girl (Sharriese Hamilton) who proves to be a worthy adversary to Joey. Once he has charmed the socialite into setting him up in his own joint, Chez Joey, Joey ditches the shop girl and is riding high, playing the big-time operator. However, life for Joey is never easy and when he is threatened by a small time punk (Matt Orlando) with his affair being leaked to the socialite's husband, his glamorous world is turned upside down.

Steppenwolf Theatre Company's 2013 & 2014 subscription season

(All plays, artists and dates are subject to change)

The Wheel

By Zinnie Harris Directed by ensemble member Tina Landau Featuring ensemble members Joan Allen, Tim Hopper, Ora Jones and Yasen Peyankov September 12 – November 10, 2013 in the Downstairs Theatre

On a 19th century Spanish farm, Beatriz is happily preparing for her sister's wedding when the house is overrun by soldiers. In the chaos, she becomes the unintentional guardian of a young girl. Her determination to reunite the child with her father sweeps Beatriz along on a journey across war zones and through time. But what began as a simple act of kindness takes on a strange twist when the girl acquires curious powers. The Wheel is a spellbinding story of what happens to hope and human nature in times of war.

Tribes

By Nina Raine Directed by ensemble member Austin Pendleton Featuring ensemble members Alana Arenas and Francis Guinan December 5, 2013 – February 9, 2014 in the Downstairs Theatre Billy's intellectual and proudly eccentric English family is its own tiny empire: private languages, in jokes and fiery arguments. Billy, deaf since birth, is the only one who truly listens. When he meets his girlfriend Sylvia, he is introduced to a larger Deaf community, which sparks a struggle for self-identity and rebellion against his family. Tribes is a sharp, witty story about finding the place where you can be heard – and the family where you belong.

Tribes premiered at London's Royal Court in 2010; in 2012 it was produced Off-Broadway at Barrow Street Theater, and featured ensemble member Jeff Perry.

Russian Transport

By Erika Sheffer Directed by ensemble member Yasen Peyankov Featuring ensemble members Tim Hopper, Mariann Mayberry and Alan Wilder February 6 – May 11, 2014 in the Upstairs Theatre

A rowdy Russian family in Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn is on a daily hustle to achieve the American Dream. When Uncle Boris arrives from the old country, his mysterious business ventures force the family to decide just how far they are willing to go to come out on top. A funny, passionate family drama that slyly transforms into a heart- pounding thriller, Russian Transport is a fascinating look at the contemporary American immigrant experience.

Russian Transport premiered Off-Broadway in 2012, presented by the New Group.

The Way West

By Mona Mansour Directed by ensemble member Amy Morton April 3 – June 8, 2014 in the Downstairs Theatre

In a modern-day California town that's seen better days, Mom shares death-defying tales of pioneer crossings with her two squabbling adult daughters as she waits for her bankruptcy to come through. Peppered with original prairie songs, this hilarious and heartbreaking play about today's American family explores the mixed blessing of our great frontier spirit, which has fueled both self-delusion and survival.

Steppenwolf's production marks the world premiere of The Way West, following a workshop presented by the Lark Play Development Center in November 2012.

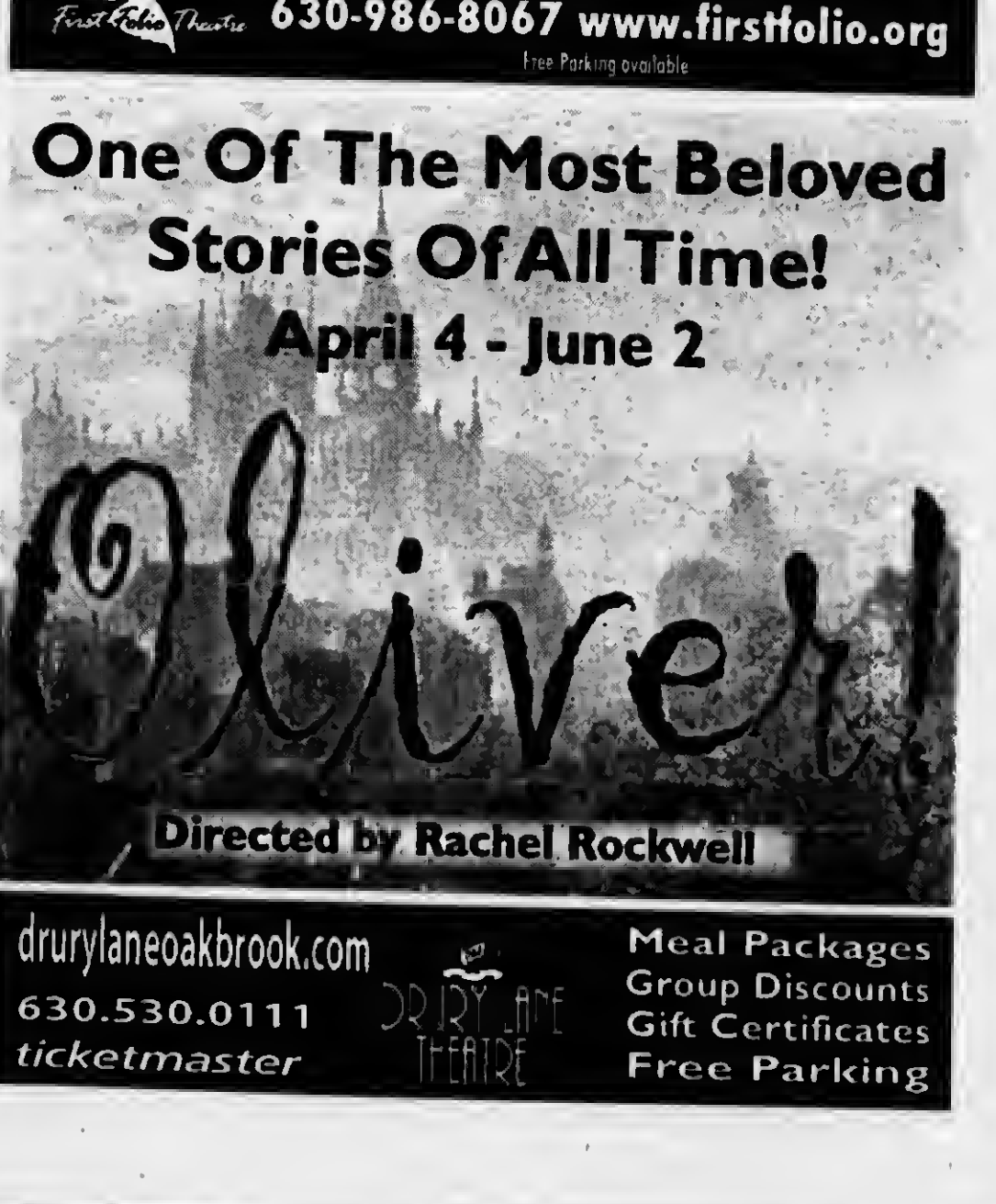
The Qualms

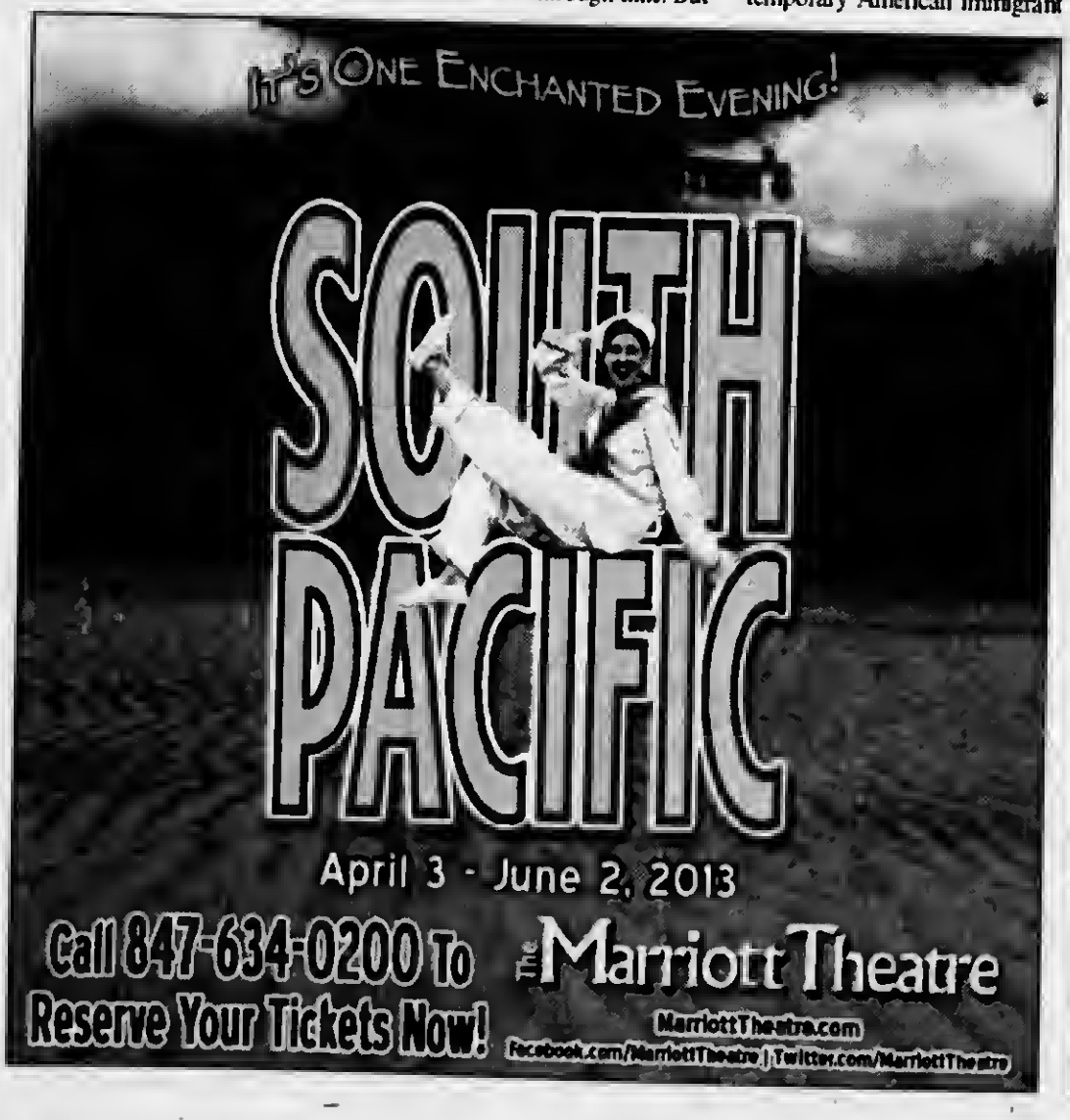
By Bruce Norris Directed by Pam MacKinnon July 3 – August 31, 2014 in the Downstairs Theatre

At a beachside apartment complex, a group of friends gathers for their regular evening of food, drink, drugs and partner-swapping. When Chris and Kristy attempt to become the newest members, the evening does not go as planned. The artichoke dip grows cold as the party devolves into a territorial battle over mating privileges. Does sex ruin everything? And what is the purpose of monogamy? Pulitzer Prize-winning author Bruce Norris's comedy explores the eternal struggle for power, status and getting laid.

Winning playwright and actor Bruce Norris returns to Steppenwolf for the world premiere of The Qualms.

For more information call 312-335-1650 or visit steppenwolf.org.





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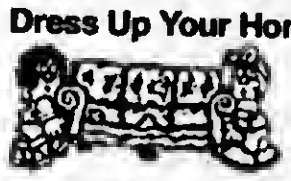
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A new twist on a delicious tradition

(NAPSA)-For years, friends and families have been getting together to share recipes, especially around the holiday season. Now, thanks to today's technology, recipes that once were only shared by passing down family favorites on weathered recipe cards are just a click away.

There are several ways to celebrate the social aspect of sharing recipes. For instance, you can have a cookie party. At these, families and friends, neighbors and club members all make cookies together. Each one brings a favorite recipe and ingredients and everyone shares the result.

A similar get-together is the cookie exchange. In this case, you make dozens of cookies at home and bring them to the exchange at a designated time and place so all participants get to enjoy what each other has baked.

With social media, such as Pinterest, recipe sharing can be easier and more widespread. That's because you can post pictures of your baked goods on the site and see recipes, tips and creative ideas for making food craft projects. The average "pinner"-someone who uploads or "pins" photos, recipes and the like on Pinterest-makes some 2,708 pins and one in every eight is about food and drink.

To help make the cookies you share more attractive and delicious, however you go about it, consider these tips:

• Make sure all the ingredients are fresh-be sure everything rises with a new can of Clabber Girl Baking Powder.

• Measure carefully. Cooking may be an art but baking is a science.

• Check your oven. Some run hotter than others and you may need to adjust the temperature or cooking time.

• Here's a festive recipe to try:

Candy Cane Biscotti

3 1/2 cups all-purpose flour

1 teaspoon Clabber Girl Baking Powder

1/2 teaspoon salt

1 cup sugar

1 cup butter, softened

2 tablespoons water

1 teaspoon peppermint extract

2 large eggs

1 cup finely crushed candy canes

1/2 cup slivered almonds, toasted

4 squares white chocolate, melted

Preheat oven to 350° F; line 2 cookie sheets with parchment paper. Combine flour, baking powder and salt in large bowl; set aside. Cream sugar, butter, water, extract and eggs in large bowl with electric mixer at medium speed until well blended. Add flour mixture, 1/2 cup crushed candy canes and almonds. Beat on low speed until just blended. Divide dough in half. Shape each half into 10x3-inch log; place each log on separate prepared cookie sheet. Bake each log 30 minutes or until center is firm to the touch. Cool 15 to 20 minutes. Using a serrated knife, cut logs diagonally into 1/2-inch slices. Place on cookie sheets. Bake 15 minutes; turn and bake 12 to 15 minutes longer or until edges are browned. Cool completely on wire racks. Dip each cookie halfway into melted chocolate. Before chocolate solidifies, dip ends into remaining 1/2 cup crushed candy canes. Store in tightly covered container-and pin the picture of what you've created onto Pinterest.

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You can find more tips and recipes at www.clabbergirl.com or go to http://pinterest.com/clabbergirl1850.

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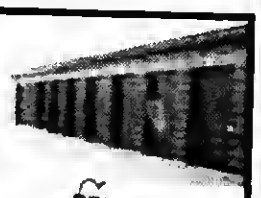
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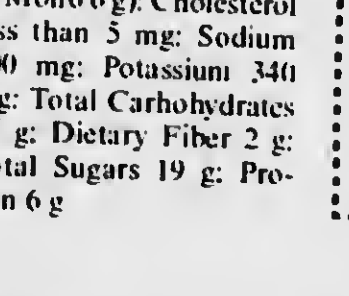

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A favorite dessert reimagined with California avocados

(NAPSA)-After all the hard work of getting into tip-top shape for the summer season, many folks have a tinge of guilt while they enjoy those traditional picnic dishes.

Fortunately for summer foodies everywhere, Liz Weiss, MS, RD and Janice Newell Bissex, MS, RD-better known as The Meal Makeover Moms-have partnered with the California Avocado Commission to put a healthy spin on a summer favorite...pie.

Desserts made with fresh, seasonal produce are a great way to celebrate the summer. With California avocados in season from spring to fall, they are a delicious ingredient for any summer dish, including dessert. The Meal Makeover Moms reimagined the traditional Key Lime Pie and developed a zesty California Avocado Yogurt Key Lime Pie recipe that combines limes, creamy Greek yogurt and avocados nestled inside a delicious homemade graham cracker crust.

Try enhancing key lime pie with delicious California avocados.

One might not immediately think of avocados as something to use in baking, but the versatile California avocado adds a creamy rich flavor to any recipe. In addition to their consistent quality and exceptional flavor, they also offer an array of nutritional benefits. California avocados are naturally sodium and cholesterol free and contain "good" fats (both poly- and monounsaturated fats), along with nearly 20 vitamins, minerals and phytonutrients. Since the greatest concentration is in the dark green fruit closest to the peel. The Meal Makeover Moms suggest nicking and peeling the skin from the avocado to get to the most nutrient-rich fruit.

To view more of The Meal Makeover Moms' recipes or learn about California avocados, visit www.CaliforniaAvocado.com.

California Avocado Yogurt Key Lime Pie
Serves: 10
Ingredients
2 ripe Fresh California Avocados, quartered, peeled and seeded
1/2 cup nonfat vanilla Greek yogurt
1/2 cup light agave nectar
1 lime, zested
1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
1/2 cup light coconut milk
1/2 cup lime juice
1 envelope unflavored gelatin
Graham Cracker Almond Crust (see make-ahead recipe below)
Raspberries and light whipped cream, for garnish (optional)
Instructions
1. Place avocados in the bowl of a food processor with the yogurt, agave, lime zest and vanilla extract; pulse until well combined. Scrape down the sides of the bowl as necessary. Set aside.
2. Place the coconut milk in a small saucepan and bring to low boil. Set aside. Place the lime juice in a large bowl. Sprinkle the gelatin over the juice and let stand 1 minute. Gently whisk in the hot coconut milk. Continue to whisk until the gelatin completely dissolves, about 5 minutes. Stir in the avocado mixture until well combined.
3. Pour the mixture into the prepared pie crust. Carefully transfer to the refrigerator and chill, uncovered, until firm, about 3 hours. Garnish with optional toppings. (Store leftovers in the refrigerator and cover with plastic wrap.)

Graham Cracker Almond Crust
Ingredients
1/2 cup unsalted, whole roasted almonds
7 whole graham crackers (14 squares)
3 Tbsp. granulated sugar
1/4 tsp. salt
1 Tbsp. unsalted butter, melted
1 egg white
Instructions
1. Preheat the oven to 350° F.
2. Place the almonds in the bowl of a food processor and pulse until coarsely ground. Add the graham crackers, sugar and salt and pulse until finely ground. Add the butter and egg white and pulse until evenly moistened and combined.
3. Press the crumb mixture firmly on the bottom and up the sides of a 9-inch pie plate. Bake 10 to 12 minutes or until fragrant and golden. Cool completely before filling.

Nutrition Information Per Serving: Calories 220; Total Fat 11 g (Sat 2.5 g, Trans 0 g, Poly 1.5 g, Mono 6 g); Cholesterol less than 5 mg; Sodium 100 mg; Potassium 340 mg; Total Carbohydrates 27 g; Dietary Fiber 2 g; Total Sugars 19 g; Protein 6 g

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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 39 | Number 19 | April 2, 2013

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

Evergreen Park board hears redevelopment plans for the Plaza

by Matt Mayer

Development officer Jay Adams of Tamp-Based DeBartolo Development addressed the village board at the March 18 Evergreen Park Board of Trustees meeting regarding a proposed development, which would include razing portions of the Plaza and redeveloping the mall property for $111 million. The development firm is likely to finalize the acquisition in July and begin razing most of the plaza immediately afterward. said Adams.

"Tentatively speaking. demolition and construction will take 20 to 25 months. "We will be hiring a general contractor from the area. We are also looking for local contractors and want their expertise because they live here and they know the area," said Adams.

Mayor James Sexton said this is a special time for Evergreen Park and a good opportunity for the village. "I won't spill the beans but I will tell you that some of the players that were mentioned will help put the plaza back on the map. The new plaza will be as special as the original one which was build in 1950's", said Sexton.

DeBartolo is negotiating with Carson Pirie Scott, the main anchor tenant. Carson's is staying but will need to close during the demolition process, said Adams. The plan consists of Carson's receiving a parcel of property for their own construction, concurrent with the main construction. "They can develop the property better than we can because they know what they want the store to look like and they have their own special vendors", said Adams. Also Applebee's will remain at their current location. Additional information regarding DeBartolo Development may be obtained by visiting the firm's website at www.debartolodevelopment.com.

Justice advocates 7% homeowner tax exemption

by Jan Glaz

At the Village of Justice President and Board of Trustees Meeting, March 25th, a concerned citizen questioned Mayor Kris Wasowicz as to why the Village of Justice was not involved in the Regional Mayors push for tax relief. Three other communities are urging the Illinois General Assembly in Springfield to increase the amount of savings for the Homeowner and Senior Exemptions by extending the 7 Percent Homeowners Exemption. The Mayors presently involved include Mayor Joseph Strzelczyk, Summit, Mayor Chris Getty, Lyons and Bridgeview Mayor, Steven Landek.

It is reported that the proposal is intended to reduce the impact caused by the termination of the 7 Percent Expanded Homeowner Exemptions. which was originally designed to provide relief from rising home values before the economic downturn. Homeowners will continue to automatically receive benefits from the standard Homeowners Exemption. but they will see a reduction if the 7 Percent savings ends. The legislature needs to act on this as property values have dropped but taxes remained the same. Mayor Wasowicz stated that it is a newly formed project and that Justice intends to join Bridgeview, Summit and Lyons, along with additional surrounding communities, in the push for Mayors against legislators. "The Village of Justice has been invited to participate. Now we are getting information and we are joining the club." said the Mayor.

Before the meeting adjourned. the Board of Trustees granted approvals for new businesses licenses in the Village of Justice: Accel Entertainment Gaming, LLC of Bolingbrook, a Gaming Terminal Operator for Szarotka's Hideaway; MD West Concessions at 7504 S. Cronin Avenue, a Tropical Snow Mobile Food Vendor; Sun & Shade Garden Center at 8500 W. 79th Street, Garden Equipment and Supplies; and The Spot at 8646 S. Roberts Road. Unit #101. Tattoo & Body Piercing Studio.

Hickory Hills rules in favor of regulating store fronts

by Jan Glaz

Recently the Hickory Hills City Council east a positive vote in favor of Ordinance 13-4 Housing and Property Maintenance Commercial Store Front Appearance Standards. At a previous City Council Meeting Attorney Vincent Cainkar presented a sample of the Commercial Store Front Appearance Standard Ordinance and noted that the ordinance prohibits security gates on the outside of any exterior which faces parallel to the public street. The issue was brought to the attention of the City Council by a former resident of Hickory Hills who complained about the burglary bars on a T-Mobile store. "It's the first thing you see when you come into Hickory Hills off the expressway... I think it sends a terrible message. Hickory Hills has an above average police department and a low crime rate but I think the burglary bars scare people and it affects property values.

Election News: Tom McAvoy, Third Ward Alderman, distributed a Voter's Election Information Packet at the City Council Meeting. the valuable information, early voting, voting by mail. along with a complete sample ballot. is printed at no cost to taxpayers. Pertinent information as presented in the packet includes material in regards to the election of a new 3rd Ward Alderman to replace Alderman DeRosa; the two candidates are Francine Schafer and Brian Fonte. Also, in the North Palos School District 117 voters will decide whether or not to issue bonds for $30 million dollars to build a new Conrady Junior High School. The school is too small and outdated to make cost effective renovations. If passed. the approximate cost to the resident is $83.00 per $100,000.00 of assessed evaluation. After 20 years the bonds would be repaid and the cost removed from a resident's property tax bill. Alderman McAvoy's contact information: Phone 708-599-2815 or email: madmc51@aol.com

OLCHS seniors George Capetanos and Jon Beattie.

Spartans celebrate Pi Day at Argonne National Laboratory

Oak Lawn Community High School students recently celebrated "Pi Day" by attending a lecture on supercomputers at Argonne National Laboratory. Dr. Pete Beckman, Director of the Exascale Technology and Computing Institute, presented a lecture entitled "The Rise of the Super Smart Supercomputer" in which he explained how math and supercomputers are accelerating scientific discovery and helping us predict the future. From discovering the secret inner workings of the universe to developing vehicles that can drive themselves.

Afterwards, students had the opportunity to speak with Dr. Beckman and learn more about the field of computer science. The field trip is part of the school's ongoing efforts to promote Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) awareness. The trip was coordinated by OLCHS physics teacher Chris Repa.

Remember to vote April 9th!

Village View

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 7 | April 2, 2013

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Tinley Park reports crime is down

by Jan Glaz

Good news for Tinley Park residents. Trustee Brian Mahar, public safety chairman, announced at the Village of Tinley Park Board of Trustees Meeting, March 19th, that crime numbers over the past two years are down. Maher and Police Chief Steve Neuhauer addressed a concerned citizen during the public forum portion of the meeting in regards to what she believed to be an increasing crime rate. Police Chief Neubauer brought attention to the fact that there is more awareness of crime now due to our modern world of 24 hour media and internet social networks: this opens the door to misinformation. "Things went on before but people just didn't know about it. We have a citizen's police academy for people who want to know exactly what we do," said Neuhauer.

Signed sealed and delivered, by the President and Board of Trustees of Tinley Park, a Resolution recognizing Reta L. Brudd for over four decades volunteer service with the Village of Tinley Park from March 19, 1973 to March 19, 2013. On March 5, 1973 Mayor John T. Dunn recommended the appointment of Reta Brudd to serve as a Commissioner to the then Human Resources Commission. The mission at that time was chaired by the now Mayor Edward Zabrocki. Under her leadership countless new programs and projects were instituted. Her accolades are numerous. In 2002 a Life Achievement Award from the Chamber of Commerce and recognition by the Chicago Tribune, in an article on exceptional volunteer contributions. Reta was twice honored with special awards by the Village of Tinley Park and the German City of Buedingen, for her international Sister City efforts. After a standing ovation and rounds of applause, Reta commented that she did not work alone and acknowledged thanks to all fellow volunteers.

Noteworthy: A motion carried to adopt a Resolution approving Cook County Class 8 reclassification for the Property located at 7233, 7241 and 7245 Duvan Drive. John Kaczmarski is purchasing the property to move and expand his EZ Recycling Company and for lease to perspective businesses. The Class 8 property tax reclassification will provide a significant 60 percent savings on commercial property taxes for John Kaczmarski.

Orland dog park dug out update

by Jan Glaz

Its official. Orland Park's Dog Park membership fees and name based on the theme of baseball, met with approval on Monday, March 18th, at the Village of Orland Park Board of Trustees Meeting. The Village anticipates a mid-June opening of the dog park at Centennial Park, 15600 West Ave. The membership fee for residents of Orland Park and Orland Township is $25 annually, $10 additional dog and $80 annually, $15 additional dog, for non-residents. Implementing a "membership" provides for registration of the dog to better ensure that dogs have proper immunizations and determine who is using the park and how often. The memberships would be sold through the Recreation Department. A membership is common practice at dog parks. The park named "The Dogout" will have signage with the slogans "Play Ball!" and "On Deck Circle" at the entrance gates. Sponsorships on the scoreboard-like signage and memorial bricks or plaques will enhance the area and provide revenue to pay for these enhancements. The Village will share the cost of the park, estimated at $200,000, with the township. Residents can apply for membership on the Village website, at the recreation department adjacent to the Village Hall, and at the Sportsplex.

Noteworthy: The Village received ten bids for the demolition and asbestos removal at the Orland Plaza, located at 143rd Street and LaGrange Road. The low bidder Bechstein Construction Corporation of Tinley Park for a total of $106,900.00 met with approval for both demolition and asbestos removal. This will take the Orland Plaza down to the concrete slab or basement. The remainder of the basement and/or slab will be removed at a later date due to ground testing and mitigation requirements. The demolition of the Plaza will spare the buildings housing Marquette Bank and Gee-Schussler Insurance.

Openings for Tot Time Preschool Program

The Tinley Park-Park District's Tot Time Preschool Program is now accepting resident registration for the 2013-14 school year. Non-resident registration begins April 1. Classes are available at the Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center, 8125 W. 171st Street, or the Vogt Woods Building, 6527 W. 171st Street. The program runs from September 2013 through May 2014.

Three-year-old classes are available Tuesday and Thursday (morning or afternoon) or Monday, Wednesday and Friday (morning or afternoon). Four-year-old classes are available Monday, Wednesday and Friday (morning or afternoon). For more information and prices for both residents and non-residents, please call the park district at (708) 342-4200, or check the 2013 Winter/Spring Brochure. Registration forms are available online at www.tinleyparkdistrict.org, in the 2013 Winter/Spring Brochure, or at the Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center. Online registration is not available for Tot Time.

Oak Forest officials jump start 2013 summer season

by Jan Glaz

The Oak Forest City Council voted in favor of an agreement in regards to outdoor maintenance at the March 26th City Council Meeting. The approved agreement is a 2013 Lawn Maintenance Contract for vacant and abandoned properties in Oak Forest, with Dutch Valley, Inc. of Monee, Illinois, for $28.00 per cut. Building Commissioner Gary Gerdes reported that the housing crisis has forced Oak Forest and other municipalities to secure and maintain properties in order to eliminate blight in the community and to keep structures compliant with property maintenance codes. Gerdes explained the cost of lawn mowing is the City's greatest property maintenanec expense. The City spent $30 per cut during the 2012 season and the total cost amounted to $11,800 on 65 properties. "The City places a $400.00 lien on the property for each cut, so we make up for the expense," explained Gerdes. Alderman Diane Wolf questioned the use of a Monee based vendor as opposed to a local company. Gerdes replied that it was the most competitive bid. Of the five bids reviewed, the second lowest bid, $30 per cut, belonged to Three Brothers Landscaping in Oak Forest. Dutch Valley, Inc., of Monee, was the City's lawn maintenance contractor in 2010 and 2011 and the City was satisfied with the work performed.

In line with upgrades and maintenance issues the City Council voted 4-0 to a lease agreement with Proven Business Systems to provide copiers for the City of Oak Forest Police and Building Department at a total cost of $418.00 per month. Three copiers will be replaced; two are 10 years old and have been called in for service numerous times and are slowing down production. The previous maintenance agreement, a cost of $389.91 per month, has expired. The new yearly agreement is proposed at $451.15 per month due to a rise in the cost of parts and service calls. Before the meeting adjourned the City Council moved to approve the appointment of John Harris to the Oak Forest Citizens Advisory Commission and a Resolution, a revision to the Property Purchase Contract Agreement for the building at 15659 South Lamon Avenue.

Remember to vote April 9th!

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SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 14 | Number 7 | April 2, 2013

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Palos Heights students participated in the Mock City Council meeting

by Matt Mayer

A recent Palos Heights City Council meeting commenced with Mayor Robert Straz presenting certificates to the students who participated in the evening's Mock City Council meeting as part of the Mayor for a Day program. Thanks went out to the Palos Heights Women's Club for sponsoring this valuable experience and educational program, now in it's 36th year.

An ordinance providing traffic regulation enforcement for Westgate Valley Town Home Condo Association was approved as well as a resolution requesting permission from IDOT to close a portion of Harlem Avenue on Tuesday July 4, between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. for the Annual 4th of July Parade. A request for the city attorney Tom Brown to draft an ordinance for a zoning reclassification from R to PUD, petitioned by Capital Investments for 12312 S. 72nd Court was also approved.

A request regarding the Community Park Ball Field area master plan prepared by Brusseau Design Group and u request for the Director of Parks und Recreation to direct Brusseau Design Group to prepare the construction bid documents for the phase I improvements to the pony field, with alternates as well as to advertise for bids was approved.

A resolution to appropriate a Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) expenditure for $325,000.00 for the 2013 road program, regarding the purchase of salt and other miscellaneous related expenses was approved as well as a request to prepare a contract agreement with engineering with Morris Engineering for the 2013 road program.

A payment to IDOT for $42,657.14 for cost sharing reimbursement regarding the Harlem Avenue lighting program was approved as well as an IDOT payment of $38,138.42 for cost sharing reimbursement regarding the Ishnala traffic signal project. A request to renew the city's health insurance plan with Blue Cross and Blue Shield at a rate not to exceed 10 percent above the current annual premium was also approved.

Yiannis Ekonomou (fourth grade) & Elias Ekonomou (seventh grade).

Koraes Elementary School Winter Band Festival

Koraes Elementary School, affiliated with SS Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Palos Hills, performed in a winter band festival for family and friends. Our Koraes band members, under the direction of Mr. Dominic Colonero band director, invited Saint Mary Catholic School band members to join them for a beautiful evening of music.

Palos Hills Police Chief receives letter for efforts to keep school students safe

by Matt Mayer

Ald. Kleefisch at a recent Palos Hills City Council meeting said the police department received a check from Consolidated High School District 230 for $9,241.02 as well as a check from Dorothy Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court for $890.57. Police Chief Madigan received a thank you from the North Palos School Superintendent thanking him for his efforts this year and for years past in helping to keep students safe, said Kleefisch.

Other highlights: Ald. Williams presented an outline of the public works departments activities. He said crews have been performing the following maintenance work: routine maintance and painting of the city's sanitary sewer lift stations and portable water pumping stations: trimming parkway trees; tree and weed removal at various locations within the city golf course; preparing equipment and supplies for spring and summer repair season and repairing city streetlights using the cities bucket truck, as well as repairing potholes.

Ald. Schultz said he received a call from a resident wanting to know if the city has an occupancy ordinance regarding the number of people that can reside in a two-bedroom condo. Ald Schultz asked if the city has such an ordinance that restricts the number of occupants. Mayor Bennett said the city does have an ordinance however it's tied to family members. There is an outline of what can be allowed, said Bennett.

Moraine Valley hosting Resource Fair for veterans

Military veterans of all ages are invited to a Wellness Resource Fair at Moraine Valley Community College on Saturday, April 20, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The free fair will be in the Moraine Business and Conference Center, Building M, on campus, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills. Refreshments will be provided.

Highlights of the fair include a presentation of the colors by the Marine Color Guard and singing of the National Anthem at noon, and the Patriot Guard moving wall, a memorial to over 260 Illinois Fallen Heroes from Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Veterans who attend can receive information on helpful resources from the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs, Illinois Veterans Foundation, Hines Hospital, and Jesse Brown Hospital. Other groups that will be represented are Paws Assisting Wounded Warriors, Helmets to Hard Hats, American Legion Riders, Veterans Riding for Veterans, Veteran's Advocate - Disabled American Veterans, Moraine Valley's Combat to College Student Organization, American Veterans Motorcycles Riders Association Chapter X, DIVE Heart, and Healthy Mind/Healthy Bodies at the Oak Lawn Park District.

"As a community college, this is a unique service we can offer to veterans in our communities. We hope to provide possible avenues for veterans to learn more about their benefits, discover organizations and services available to help them, and find camaraderie," said Donna McCauley, professor and coordinator of Recreation Therapy and Recreation Management programs at Moraine Valley.

Students in McCauley's classes are helping to organize this event, providing them with valuable hands-on learning experience in planning, implementing and evaluating special events. They have played an integral role in coordinating the fair, including collecting donations for raffle prizes.

For more information about the Wellness Resource Fair, contact McCauley at (708) 974-5227, mccauley@morainevalley.edu, or Cathy Nolan at (708) 974-5378, nolanc@morainevalley.edu.

Remember to vote April 9th!

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B-MAC EDITION

Volume 7 | Number 7 | April 2, 2013

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Officials relinquish easement to fairways of Midlothian

by Jan Glaz

On March 27th at the Village of Midlothian Board Meeting the Board of Trustees granted an Authorization for Corporation Counsel McGrath to draft an easement for a fence for Fairways of Midlothian in regards to the west sixteen and a half feet of the Village's 33 foot right-of-way along Lavergne Avenue from 143rd Street to 144th Place. The request from Fairways for an easement dates back to October 2011. After the motion carried Mayor Terrence Stephens commented, "This has been discussed in great length over my entire term as Mayor."

In other business Authorization for two firefighters to submit an application for paramedic training by April 2, 2013 for training to begin in June at a cost of $4,300 each, met with approval. Attorney Daniel McGrath explained that the authorization will allow for the submission of the application and the actual decision to move forward will be on the agenda for approval at a later Board of Trustees Meeting.

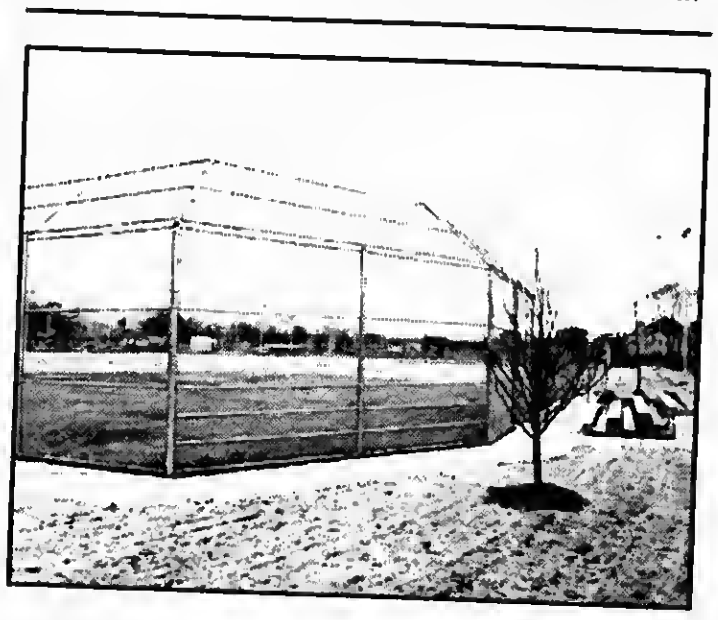
Before the meeting adjourned, the village approved a class 8 classification for a Redevelopment Agreement with the Razik Family for commercial property contingent on signing of a lease. This is in regards to a much anticipated opening of the Dollar Tree in Midlothian: A motion carried to pay from the Foreign Fire Account an amount of $540.00 to obtain ambulance certification by the State of Illinois through Ingalls and authorization to purchase turnout gear for a new firefighter in the amount of $1,900.00: The Salvation Army received permission from the Board of Trustees to host the 2013 Donut Days on May 31st, June 1st, June 7th, and June 8th, and Red Kettle Campaign on November 15th and December 24th at storefronts.

Village of Alsip seeks to avoid litigation

by Jan Glaz

The issue of possible litigation was addressed at the March 18th Village of Alsip Board of Trustees Meeting. During the Public Forum a heated discussion arose between Drakow Engineering and the Village of Alsip for pending invoices for the 115th Street Extension Project. Gary Drakow President of Drakow Engineering voiced his opinion at the Public Forum portion of the meeting to ensure his comments be made part of the public record. Drakow claimed that Trustee Ryan made several inaccurate statements at a previous meeting indicating that Ryan had no knowledge of seeing invoices pertaining to the project. Drakow also complained of a constant lack of response from Trustee Ryan to numerous emails and a personal invitation that Drakow extended to Ryan to attend a meeting with the Finance Director and Water Commissioner. Drakow mentioned the Finance Director reported that the legal procedure followed for work and payment to Drakow Engineering was the same as that utilized for Drakow and other vendors for decades. Gary Drakow resented, after thirty years of commendable service to Alsip, that Drakow was singled out and publically examined by the Village. Drakow said he will seek legal damages. Mayor Patrick Kitching addressed Trustee Ryan. He told Ryan that the invoices were approved, twice, but Trustee Ryan denied the fact. Kitching informed Ryan, "You are in charge of the Water Commission you are supposed to be looking at everything." Kitching then suggested that the Board of Trustees continue the discussion at a closed session.

Before the meeting adjourned, City Clerk Deborah Venhuizen, presented awards to Elizabeth B. Lozano, the winner of the Alsip Vehicle Sticker Contest for 2013-14. Elizabeth received gifts and accolades. From the Village of Alsip, a certificate of achievement and a gift certificate to redeem a vehicle sticker for her household, when the stickers go on sale in May. Ms. Lozano proudly accepted a $25.00 gift check card from American Express; a certificate of achievement award from Midwest Bank; a standing ovation and a burst of applause. Please log into the Village of Alsip Website to view Photos of the presentation and Sticker information.



Newly renovated Centennial Park in Blue Island

The Blue Island Park District is extremely excited about breaking the seal off of the newly renovated Centennial Park (1732 Vermont St. Blue Island, IL) after what feels like an eternity. That might be an understatement if you were to ask any the softball players waiting to get it. Centennial Park was treated to a fresh renovation that included: New fields, diamonds, backstops, fencing, dugouts, seating, restrooms and a wonderful new walking path. After a long wait of over a year, the Blue Island Park District is ecstatic to welcome back Men's 16" Softball to this wonderful field. There is an open invitation to any individual and teams wishing to participate in the Blue Island Park District Men's 16" softball season. Applications are being taken now. Team captain meetings are scheduled for April. All individuals wishing to enter a team are encouruged to participate.

For now, let's hope for clear weather and an early spring. Till then, make sure to schedule a visit to Centennial Park in Blue Island this summer.

For more info on Centennial Park please visit our website at: www.blueislandparks.org. to contact a Blue Island softball directly: bisoftball@blueislandparks.org

Down economy avoids Crestwood revenue soars

by Jan Glaz

Due to attracting and retaining solid businesses the Village of Crestwood revenue, the portion of sale taxes, has increased each year for the past three years. The span, for fiscal year 2010, Crestwood collected $3,612,000.00 in sales taxes and the expected proceeds for 2013 are reported to be just under $4,000,000.00. Mayor Robert Stranczek mentioned the fact that a month ago the Chicago Tribune did a feature story on Illinois towns and their general debt amounts. Crestwood was one of only a few towns that had a zero general obligation debt. A financial breakdown and explanation of debt calculating was published on the front page of the March 2013 Crestwood Advisor. In that edition the Mayor also draws attention to the fact that after several years of declining property tax receipts, assessed valuations are increasing which is bringing additional revenue to the village. The Village Treasurer estimates that the village will end this fiscal year, after having paid all bills, with a $600,000.00 surplus. "We are in a very good financial position," stated the Mayor.

Other Crestwood business, on March 21st at the Village of Crestwood Board of Trustees Meeting three motions carried pertaining to new business in Crestwood: Consideration to direct the Village Attorney to prepare a Special Use Ordinance for JM Mobile Service, Inc., to permit diesel truck repairs with a stipulation that there be no more than two trailers and five vehicles outside the premises for overnight storage. To be located at 4345 West 136th Court; a Special Use Ordinance for Your Choice Auto Sales, Inc. to permit used car and internet sales with the stipulation that there are no auto repairs, body work, or auto painting on the premises. To be located at 14112 S. Pulaski; and a Special Use Ordinance for Kenpo Karate D/B/A Winds of Wellness Therapeutic Massage to permit a therapeutic massage company, as this is not specifically provided for in the commercial zoning district, to be located at 4711 Midlothian Turnpike, Suite 14.

Remember to vote April 9th!

Michelle Lenz, Frank Gomulka, Emily Bober, Daniel William Harty, Elise Viz, Joe Storti. Middle row: Susan Marie Westman, Nathan Alonso, Ashley Kikns, Niko Anaya, Brooke Gawel, Matthew Mikota. Back row: State Sen. Michael Hastings, U.S. Rep. Dan Lipinski and Lyons Mayor Chris Getty.

Rep. Lipinski announces All-American Boy & Girl winners

U.S. Rep. Dan Lipinski (IL-3) held his annual All American Boy & Girl Award Ceremony for 7th and 8th grade students at Moraine Valley Community College in Palos Hills recently. The 106 finalists were selected from several thousand applicants to appear before a panel of judges for a formal interview. Following the interviews, 12 winners were selected representing each grade and gender.

"The All-American Boy & Girl Awards date back roughly 40 years," Rep. Lipinski said. "The goal of the program has always been to recognize the commitment to education and community involvement not just of our students, but also of their parents, family members, teachers, coaches, and many others throughout the 3rd Congressional District. The program's success and longevity are a testament to the strength and vitality of our communities and the families that may them strong.

"As always, it was encouraging to hear all the great things these kids are doing in their communities. We call them All-American because it is their hard work and character that points to a bright future for our country."

The winners are:

• Seventh grade boys: Niko Anaya, Bridgeport Catholic Academy, Chicago; Joe Storti, St. Alphonsus/St. Patrick School, Lemont; Frank Gomulka, S.S. Cyril & Methodius School, Lemont.

• Seventh grade girls: Ashley Kikos, St. Christina Catholic School, Chicago; Elise Viz, S.S. Cyril & Methodius School, Lemont; Michelle Lenz, Koraes Elementary School, Palos Hills.

• Eighth grade boys: Matthew Mikota, John C. Dore School, Chicago; Nathan Alonso, Robert L. Grimes School, Chicago; Daniel William Harty, St. John Fisher School, Chicago.

• Eighth grade girls: Brooke Gawel, Charles J. Sahs, Stickney; Susan Marie Westman, Lemont Montessori School; Emily Bober, St. Christina Catholic School, Chicago.

Each finalist was awarded a certificate for their hard work and superior essay. The 12 winners were awarded a special plaque and other prizes.

Suspect charged in homicide

The Cook County States Attorney's Office today authorized charges for First Degree Murder against Jessie Rodriguez. The other "person of interest" was released and is cooperating with the investigation. Rodriguez has been in custody since March 28, 2013 and will be transferred to the custody of the Cook County Sheriff on March 30, 2013 where he will be afforded the opportunity of a bond hearing.

The criminal investigation revealed that Rodriguez is the boyfriend to the aunt of Gina Pressley who was her guardian. The criminal complaint alleges that Rodriguez without justification caused the death of Gina Presley. The filing of a criminal complaint does not indicate the guilt of a person arrested and is used as formal documents to bring charges before the criminal court.

"The South Suburban Major Crimes Task Force and the Oak Forest Police Department have and continue to work diligently on this investigation. A child homicide motivates everyone in law enforcement to determine what happened and who is responsible. This is not consolation for the family or the community and only begins to provide a response to such a horrific act" according to Chief of Police Gregory Anderson.

At 11:22pm on March 26, 2013, the Oak Forest Fire Department paramedics responded to the Walnut Road residence for a 3 year old choking. Paramedics found Gina unresponsive and transported her to Palos Community Hospital where she was pronounced deceased. On March 27, 2013, the Cook County Medical Examiner's office performed an autopsy and indicated Gina's death as a homicide caused by blunt force trauma to the head.

Gina was living at the residence on Walnut Road with a female guardian and a male associate who were both home and initiated the call to 911 because Gina was choking.

The Oak Forest Police and the South Suburban Major Crimes Task Force are conducting a joint investigation into this incident. There are two people of interest in custody and their identity will not be released until or if they are charged with any criminal wrong doing. The investigation is ongoing and limited information can be released at this time.

People associated with Gina are cooperating to determine exactly what happened. Chief Gregory Anderson commented "When you see a child lose their life, it affects everyone. Not only the family, it affects the whole community. This is a horrific crime on the most innocent of victims."

All further information will be disseminated through press releases or press conferences. Anyone with information is asked to call the Oak Forest Police Department at 708-687-1376.

Why I support the Conrady Junior High School Modernization Referendum

On April 9th voters residing in School District 117 have an opportunity to approve a referendum to fund much needed improvements to Conrady Junior High School. Conrady was built in 1965 and there have been additions to the building in 1969, 1975 and 2000. Due to a more than 20% increase in the student population over the last 15 years, District 117 this year installed four mobile classrooms in the parking lot to add teaching space. Despite the same school boundaries, projections indicate that the enrollment growth will continue for the foreseeable future. While the increased enrollment is a clear sign of the vitality of our community, this has caused significant overcrowding in an already outdated junior high building.

As many of you know, the school district recently has funded necessary facility improvements to Glen Oaks, Oak Ridge and Sorrick Schools. Over the last few years I have heard from parents and school district officials that Conrady is woefully inadequate, outdated and in dire need of significant improvements. While I was not necessarily skeptical of these claims, I certainly felt it necessary to see for myself. During a recent open house, I walked throughout the school and realized that it has not changed much since 30 years ago when I was in junior high. On the evening that I toured the school we had a significant rain earlier that day. One of the science classrooms had water streaming down a wall through a leak in the roof and there appeared to be mold in a corner of the ceiling. The other classrooms, cafeteria and music room were all quite outdated and very cramped. Indeed, reports are accurate that the overcrowding has resulted in teachers utilizing storage rooms and non-instructional space for instruction.

In my opinion, the current Conrady Junior High School building truly fails to provide our children with an adequate educational environment relative to most junior high schools in the area. Despite the estimated cost to homeowners, I believe that the substandard facilities and increasing enrollment projections are compelling reasons to support the Conrady Modernization Referendum. It is proven that the strength and stability of a community is directly correlated to the quality of its educational system. I believe that supporting this referendum is the right thing to do at the right time for the children of District 117 and for the future of our community.

Sincerely,
Mike Howley
Mayor, City of Hickory Hills

Andrew Zarnowski.

Michael Buche

St. Laurence students receive Evans Scholarship

Two students from St. Laurence have received the prestigious Chick Evans scholarship. Seniors Michael Buche (Crestwood) and Andrew Zarnowski (Chicago Ridge) are both Evans Scholars. Michael will be attending the University of Notre Dame, and Andrew will be attending Marquette University. "Andy and Mike are outstanding young men," said St. Laurence Principal Jim Muting. They work hard in the classroom and within the school on various activities. I know the process to become an Evans Scholar is not easy. These two young men were up to the challenge. Over 700 students applied for the scholarship and 25 received recognition. They are a credit to their families and to STL. We are very proud of them."

The Chick Evans Scholarship provides a full housing and tuition scholarship for students who are golf caddies. The scholarship was first started in 1930, and now has Scholarship Houses at 14 universities across the country.

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We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce hosting monthly luncheon

The Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce will host its monthly luncheon on Tuesday, April 9th at the Hilton Oak Lawn. Registration begins at 11:30 am. noon lunch, followed by a presentation from Advocate Family Care Network.

This is a good opportunity for networking and meeting other businesses in and around Oak Lawn. Come out and join us. All events are open to members and business owners. Please contact the Chamber office at (708) 424-8300 or email office@oaklawnchamber.com to reserve your spot.

National Library Week 2013

This week, the Bridgeview Public Library joins libraries in schools, campuses and communities nationwide in celebrating National Library Week, a time to highlight the value of libraries, librarians and library workers.

Libraries today are more than repositories for books and other resources. Often the heart of their communities, campuses or schools, libraries are deeply committed to the places where their patrons live, work and study. Libraries are trusted places where everyone in the community can gather to reconnect and reengage with each other to enrich and shape the community and address local issues.

Librarians work with elected officials, small business owners, students and the public at large to discover what their communities needs are and meet them. Whether through offering e-books and technology classes, materials for English-language learners, programs for job seekers or those to support early literacy, librarians listen to the community they serve, and they respond.

The Bridgeview Public Library serves Bridgeview by providing library materials, classes, programs, computers, and many other services.

"Service to the community has always been the focus of the library," said Lori Kinzel, acting director. "While this aspect has never changed, libraries have grown and evolved in how they provide for the needs of every member of their community."

The Bridgeview Public Library is celebrating National Library Week by offering special programs, contests, prizes, and an amnesty day for fines on Friday, April 19th.

For more information, visit the Bridgeview Public Library 7840 W. 79th Street, call 708-458-2880 or see the library's Web site at www.bridgeviewlibrary.org

Moraine Valley to host medical presentation on foot and ankle trauma

Moraine Valley Community College is hosting its Medical Education Series presentation on "Trauma of the Foot and Ankle" from 7 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, April 3, in the Dorothy Menker Theater in the Fine and Performing Arts Center, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills. The event is co-sponsored by Northwestern Memorial Hospital and is free and open to the public.

Dr. Anish Kadakia is giving this presentation. Dr. Kadakia is an orthopaedic surgeon at Northwestern Memorial Hospital and an associate professor in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. He graduated from Northwestern's Feinberg School of Medicine and completed his residency in orthopaedic surgery at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. He also finished a fellowship at Mercy Medical Center. His expertise is in foot and ankle problems, arthroscopy, diabetic foot infections, diabetic foot and ankle problems, musculoskeletal disorders, and musculoskeletal trauma/fracture.

Since 2004, Moraine Valley's Career/Health Sciences Programs and Northwestern Memorial Hospital have collaborated to host this Medical Education Series on health topics, including cardiovascular disease, sleep disorders, mind-body pain management, tobacco cessation, diabetes, spinal surgery, pelvic health, and cochlear implants.

For more information call Mari Smith at (708) 608-4039 or email her at Smithm@morainevalley.edu.

Hickory Hills Park District events

The Hickory Hills Park District will be holding an Indoor Garage Sale on Saturday, April 13 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Krueger Park Recreation Center, 9100 S. 88th Avenue. Those wishing to sell their stuff need to register in advance. A 6 foot table in a 10 x 8 foot space will be provided. Fee is $20 Resident and $30 Non-Resident. Admission is "Free".

Pizza Tasting Buffet -Bring out the whole family for a taste of pizza from some of the top pizza joints in the area at Krueger Park Rec. Center, 9100 S. 88th Ave. on Friday, April 19, 6:00 p.m.- 7:30 p.m. We will have a variety of crusts, deep dish and stuffed pizza to choose from. Raffles will be available for a chance to win gift certificates at your favorite pizza establishment. You must register in advance for this event.

Resident: $6 (Adult); $4 (5-12 years) Non-Resident: $7 (Adult); $5 15-12 years)

Call the park district office at 708-598-1233 or visit our website at www.hhparkdistrict.org for more information.

From the desk of Robert Maloney

We wish to inform the residents of Palos Township that the time period to file u property assessment appeal application by April 26, 2013. Palos Township is locuted at 10802 S Roberts Rd., Palos Hills. We ure open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information, please call 708-598-4418.

Appeal Applications must be received by the Cook County Assessor's office no later than April 29th, 2013. Therefore, Palos Township will assist residents with applications until Friday, April 26th, 2013, allowing the last day, Monday, April 29th, 2013 for delivery.

Please Note: Property tax increases are directly related to the amount of money local taxing bodies request for spending. Therefore, even in a declining market, tax bills will not go down unless taxing bodies reduce spending.

Garden Center Services 3rd Annual Potting Party

Garden Center Services will be hosting its 3rd Annual Potting Party at 115 Bourbon Street Friduy, April 5, 2013 from 7pm to midnight. Enjoy a full buffet and open bar, while you dance to the rock stylings of the live band, Last Call. The fun continues with a live art auction, silent auction and raffles. Tickets are $30 in advance/$35 at the door.

Please visit http://www.gardencenterservices.org for more information and to purchase tickets or call Jennifer Georgis at 773/941-4151 ext 218. Proceeds benefit Garden Center services, a non-profit agency supporting persons with disabilities.

Calling all Seniors

Bremen Township continues to serve hot, nutritious Senior Meals at the Bremen Senior Center, 15350 Oak Park Ave., Oak Forest. Lunch is served at 12 Noon, Monday-Friday.

Seniors 60 or older are eligible and there is no residency restriction. This program is in partnership with Age Options. Requested donation is $4.00; meal value is $10.50. For menu info and reservations, please call 708-687-8220.

The SOUTHWEST SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Presents

Youthful Pursuits

Featuring the winner of the SSO Youth Concerto Competition

Violinist Patrick Bieszke

Playing Lalo's Symphonie espagnole: Allegro non troppo, also Verdi's three famous Opera Choruses including The Triumphal March from Aida and Brahms' Symphonie No. 2

Sunday, April 28, 2013, at 4:00 p.m.
Trinity Christian College
6601 W. College Dr. (Rt. 83), Palos Heights

Adults $20-$25 Students $5
Seniors (65+) $15-20 Children 12 and under free!

Tickets can be purchased at the door or in advance
708-802-0686 www.southwestsymphony.com

This concert is partially sponsored by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council.

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Orland Women's Networking hosts annual Women's Networking Luncheon

Speaker Gia Clare Discusses Powerful Leadership.

Are you a decisive leader? Are you leading by example? Join us at our annual OWN (Orland Women's Networking) Luncheon on Tuesday, April 16 from 11:00 am to 1:30 pm at Silver Lake Country Club and explore the traits that all leaders exhibit. Our speaker, Gia Claire, will show you how to develop the skills to effectively manage your life and the people within it. After almost twenty years of corporate sales and leadership with Fortune 500 companies and a Six Sigma Green Belt, Gia has transformed her experience and passion into a platform that inspires, motivates and drives change.

In addition to our speaker and lunch, we'll have the opportunity to network with other professional women, get a bit of shopping in with our vendors and win fabulous raffle prizes! Cost for the luneh is $26 for Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce members who RSVP in advanee and $36 for nonmembers and at the door.

Bring a loyal client or a good friend, reward a deserving employee or eome by yourself and meet new people! No matter how you participate, be sure you join us for a wonderful afternoon. All are welcome to attend. For more information or to reserve a spot at the Luncheon, call the Chamber Office at (708) 349-2972 or email donna@orlandparkchamber.org . Registration forms can also be downloaded from the Chamber website at www.orlandparkehamber.org.

Things to do in Blue Island

Rummage Sale

Collectibles, kitchenware, jewelry, household items and much more!

On Friday, April 5 and Saturday, April 6, at 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Grace United Methodist Church, 12739 S. Maple Ave. Blue Island, IL.

Spring Tea Luncheon

Welcome the season with friends at the Blue Island Historical Society's spring luncheon tea. Our teas always include lunch, dessert, a short presentation, and of course, great tea! Reservations required.

On Saturday, April 13,. 12 to 2 p.m., Cost $20.

Blue Island Historical Society (Albee House), 13018 S. Maple Ave., Blue Island, IL.

Call for Reservations at 708-371-8546

The Hindenburg Disaster, local time-travel novel.

Actor Terry Lynch will portray radio newsman Herb Lawrence, whose famous broadcast inspired the name of a legendary rock band. Local author Ralph Horner will discuss his latest time-travel novel, Witch's Moon and hold a book signing.

On Tuesday, April 30, 7 p.m.

Blue Island Public Library, 2433 York St., Blue Island, IL.

Programs at Bridgeview Library

Don't go breakin' your heart! Come to Bridgeview Library Tuesday, April 16th at 6:30 P.M. to find out how to keep your heart healthy. Christ Hospital nurse, Sue Malinowski, will share valuable tips on how to keep the old ticker ticking. Additionally, we will have free blood pressure checks, recipes and samples of healthy food for you to try. There is no cost for this workshop but we do ask that you register in advance. You may call the library at 708-458-2880 ext. 105, stop in at the reference desk or email: bvsprograms@gmail.com

Are you having a Special Event for Cinco de Mayo? Call for advertising rates at 708-425-1910.

Book and Film Series returns

The Book & Film Series returns to the Palos Park Public Library on Wednesday, April 10th at 2 p.m. with Anna Karenina based on the novel by Leo Tolstoy. This Oscar winning film with an all star cast brings a new life to this classic love story. Run time 129 minutes.

This program is free and open to the public. All who attend will be entered in a raffle to win a free copy of the book. Didn't read the book? Come out anyway! Join us to judge a book by its movie. The library is located at 12330 Forest Glen Boulevard. Call the library to register at (708) 448-1530, or for more information, visit the library online at www.palosparklibrary.org.

Back Row, left to right: Bureau Chef Jim Leikel . Oak Lawn Fire Department; Chief George Sheets, Oak Lawn Fire Department; Michelle William, First Midwest Bank and Chamber 1st Vice President; Joann Reiser, Marquette Bank; Patti Johnson, Suburban Bank & Trust; Glen Kato, Cusack Insurance Agency; Christy Hernandez, Archer Bank; Officer Jim Pacetti, Oak Lawn Police Department.
Front Row, left to right: Mila Revell of Harnew Elementary School (3rd Place Fire Safety); Alessandra Vicenteno of St. Linus (3rd Place Public Safety); Aleksandar Petrovic of Columbus Manor Elementary School (2nd Place Fire); Andy Schroeder of St. Gerald's (2nd Place Public Safety); Hiba Ouarerhni of Kolh Elementary (1st Place Public Safety); Kayla O'Brien of St. Linus (1st Place Fire Safety).

Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce recognizes winners of Annual Fire and Public Safety Coloring Book Contest

Winners selected from hundreds of entries submitted by local grammar school students.

The Oak Lawn Chamber of Commeree recognized winners of the annual Fire and Public Safety Coloring Book contest during the March 26th Village board meeting. Representatives from the Oak Lawn Fire and Police Departments were on hand to congratulate the winners who were honored by Village President, Dave Heilmann, during the meeting. Also in attendance were Christy Hernandez, Past President of the Oak Lawn Chamber, Michelle Williams, 1st Vice President of the Oak Lawn Chamber, Fire Chief, George Sheets; Bureau Chef, Jim Leikel; Police Chief, Bill Villanova and Police Officer, Jim Pacetti.

Following the presentation, the winners and their families gathered in the lobby of the Village Hall for refreshments sponsored by Cusack Insurance Agency. Representatives from the Chamber membership who sponsored the $25 gift certificates were: 21st Century Chiropractic Family Wellness, Archer Bank, First Midwest Bank, Marquette Bank and Suburban Bank & Trust. A Family Membership to the Children's Museum for the 1st place winners was donated by The Children's Museum in Oak Lawn.

Bremen Township Inclusive Party

PUNCH 72 **Deborah Stearns** *Supervisor*

PUNCH 74 **Leonard J. Hines** *Clerk*

PUNCH 76 **Grace A. Bardusk** *Assessor*

PUNCH 78 **John "Jack" Kraus** *Highway Commissioner*

PUNCH 83 **Linda A. Braun** *Trustee*

PUNCH 84 **Charlene Temple** *Trustee*

PUNCH 85 **William "Bill" Browne** *Trustee*

PUNCH 86 **Pamela H. Younker** *Trustee*

We are dedicated to bringing honesty, integrity, and transparency to Bremen Township. We can offer all the services the other townships offer without increasing taxes. We all perform community service, but will treat our positions as the PAID position they are, putting more in than the two meetings a month. No politics as usual here, with patronage positions or contracts. We appreciate your support on April 9, 2013

Paid for by: Bremen Township Inclusive Party

Orland Township to host electronics recycling event

Orland Township Supervisor Paul O'Grady and Highway Commissioner Brian Younker are hosting "Sustainable Saturday" on Saturday, April 13, 2013 at the Highway Department, 16125 S. Wolf Road. Co-hosted by Vintage Tech Recyclers of Romeoville, the event will be held free of charge from 8 a.m. to noon. Assistance unloading will be available.

Acceptable items to donate include televisions, LCD monitors, computers, laptops, computer mouses, printers, fax machines, copiers, scanners, modems, CD drives, VCRs, keyboards, DVD players, microwaves, answering machines, typewriters, calculators, adding machines, postage meters, stereos and portable devices, speakers, cables, lights, computer parts, telephones, pagers, camcorders, cameras, cell phones, game counsels and handheld electronic devices. White goods and air conditioners will not be accepted.

By discarding electronics, valuable resources that the electronics are made from are wasted, resources such as precious metals, engineered plasties and other materials that require energy. Discarded electronics can also contain hazardous or toxic materials like lead, mercury or chromium. If recycled, nearly 60% of all electronics can be reused and an additional 38% can be recycled back to their raw state.

For additional information on "Sustainable Saturday", please call (708) 403-5148 or visit www.orlandtwp.org.

Patrick Bieszke 2013 winner of the Southwest Symphony Orchestra's Youth Concerto Competition

Patrick Bieszke, a sophomore at Sandburg High School in Orland Park, has been playing violin since the age of four. He began at the Northwest Indiana Suzuki School with Linda Lager, and after moving to Orland, continued lessons at Music Connections with Linda Veleckis. For the past six years, he has been studying with Kamen Varchev. Patrick's parents are originally from Poland, and his great grandfather was a music teacher there for over fifty years. Patrick is happy to have performed several times at the Polish Museum in Chicago.

Patrick's accomplishments began early in life. When he was eight, he played violin while using a hula hoop at the Star Plaza Theater in Merrillville and received a standing ovation!

This led to his being featured in Harry Porterfield's Someone You Should Know.

In addition to his SSO win, Patrick is also the recent winner of the Northwest Indiana Youth Symphony Orchestra Concerto Competition, and a two-time winner of the Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra's Young People's Competition. He is presently a member of the Northwest Indiana Youth Symphony, and is a former member of the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra.

If you ever ask "What's hip in Chicago?" Patrick can answer, "My trio!"

Patrick and two friends have formed the HIP Trio. HIP stands for the country of each member's ethnicity: Hong Kong, Ireland, and Poland! This hip trio of yuung high school students traveled to China with the South Shore Symphony Orchestra in 2011 and performed in Shanghai, Huzhou, and Guangzhou. Patrick also enjoys musical theater and recently played Friedrich in Sandburg's 2012 production of The Sound of Music.

Also an accomplished swimmer and triathlete, Patrick is a two-time winner of Iron Kids Nationals and a silver medalist in the 2012 Youth Elite Triathlon Nationals. He also is a member of the Sandburg Cross Country Team and the Hickory Willow Swimming Association.

If you're ever looking for Patrick, check out the local Chipotle where he'll be discussing the latest concerto and triathlon with friends and team mates. Patrick hopes to continue pursuing his passion for music and sports in the future.

Fashion show

Cheryl Scott, Meteorologist from NBC5 and Summer Jackson, Segment Producer for "You & Me This Morning" WCIU The U, will be special guests at Good Shepherd Center's "60's and Beyond" Charity Fashion Show on Saturday, April 13 at Gaelic Park, 6119 W. 147th Street in Oak Forest. The event runs from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm including lunch, the fashion show, a spectacular silent auction featuring accessories, hoursewares, entertainment, sports memorabilia including White Sox tickets, autographed Bears memorabilia with a Brian Urlacher football, raffles and lots of door prizes. This year Good Shepherd Center celebrates 50 years of services for children with and without special needs and their families. The show will rock to music from each decade the agency has been in business from the 60's up to today.

This event is for everyone, with fashions for men, women and children. The highlight of the show will be the child models from Good Shepherd Center, in addition to professional, women and male models. Fashions featured are provided by All About Me, The Children's Place, White House/Black Market, Kluger Furs, Kimberly Bond Boutique, My Sisters & Me Boutique, J Jill, Briosa Boutique, Old Navy, Target, and The Children's Place.

Tickets are $40 fur adults and $20 for children under the age of 12 which includes lunch and dessert, the silent auction, raffles and lots of give-a-ways. No tickets will be sold at the door. Tables of 10 are available at a discount. Please register for the fashion show by calling Cheryl Assise at Good Shepherd Center 708-335-0020 x 20 or cassise@gscenter.org. More information can be found at www.gscenter.org.

Good Shepherd Center has been serving children with and without developmental disabilities and their families since 1963. Services provided include speech, developmental, occupational and physical therapy; In-Home Respite Care and training opportunities for parents and child care providers. Good Shepherd Center also hosts the Strong Children – Strong Communities conference, one of the largest bilingual networking events in the Chicagoland area, for parents, educators, and child care providers.

April 16 is our
Earth Day &
Gardening issue.
To advertise call Linda
708-425-1910.

ALSIP ACTION PARTY

Support Action Party Trustee candidates
John Shapiro, Kevin Michaels and Lynn Dwyer to
work alongside full-time Mayor Patrick Kitching to...

✓ Bring more jobs to Alsip, particularly along Pulaski
✓ Keep taxes low
✓ Improve public safety and reinstall a deputy police chief
✓ Promote government transparency at every opportunity

Alsip does not need a part-time Mayor or a Village Administrator.
Mayor Kitching needs Trustees like Shapiro, Michaels and Dwyer on
the Village Board in order to move Alsip forward.

Vote Action Party on April 9th, 2013
or vote early now through April 6th

Paid for by Action Association of Alsip

Touch a Truck Day

On April 20th from 10am to noon, the Palos Hills Community Resource and Recreation Department will be hosting a Touch a Truck Day. This event will be held at The Town Square Park (8455 W 103rd Street). Kids will have the opportunity to get up close to all there favorite big rigs. Each child will receive a plastic hard hat and make a craft project.

Also, from 11:00am to noon, the Palos Hills Community Resource and Recreation Department will be hosting a Family Kite Flying Day. This event will be held at The Town Square Park (8455 W 103rd Street). Bring your own kite or purchase a "Color Me Kite" at the event.

Also, from 9am to noon, the Palos Hills Community Resource and Recreation Department will be hosting a Kid's Garage Sale. If you would like to be a vendor there is a $5 charge, please call 708-430-4500 for more info. about becoming a vendor.

All of these events are free, but registration is suggested, to register please go to the Palos Hills Community Center. (8455 W 103rd Street) For more information please call 708-430-4500.

Monkey Soup takes the stage for four performances

The Marx Brothers-inspired play takes the stage at the Tinley Park Performing Arts Center.

The Tinley Park-Park District proudly presents two weekends of performances of the most recent play, Monkey Soup. This no-holds-barred farcical comedy by Don Nigro is set in the 1930s and the demented, mad-cap, galloping but loving parody pays homage to the sort of film the Marx Brothers might have made after one hundred cups of coffee with their hair set on fire.

The four performances for Monkey Soup are on Saturday, April 13 and 20 at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, April 14 and 21 at 3:00 p.m. Tickets are $12 each and can be purchased at the Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center (8125 W. 171st Street, Tinley Park) a week prior to the performances, or at the door the night of the performance if tickets still remain.

Please call (708) 342-4200 for information on Monkey Soup.

Kindergarten student Nina Ryan stops to review traffic safety with a Cook County Sherriff Representative.

Cook County Sheriff teaches safety to kindergarten

The Cook County Sheriff's Department recently visited Park and Centennial Schools to teach kindergarten students traffic safety by means of an interactive program called Safety Town. The program is a hands-on, educational way to teach children ages 5-8 basic safety practices by using pedal cars. The students enjoyed using the cars to ride through a miniature city and stopping at each station to obey a stop sign, traffic light and railroad rail road crossing. The Cook County Sheriff's Department offers this program for young students to help teach traffic safety at a young age.

Home Remodeling is in the April 16 issue. Call for more information at 708-425-1910 or visit vvnew.com.

ELECT
CARL STEGNER
OAK FOREST CITY CLERK
VOTE APRIL 9TH, 2013
• Concerned Citizen - keeping taxes down
• Economic Development • Vote for Change
• Seasoned business person
If anyone is interested in having a sign, please contact me at 708-224-9171
Paid for by Carl Stegner

Garden Center Services'
3rd Annual Potting Party
Friday, April 5th
7pm to Midnight
The Bourbon Street
3359 W. 115th St.
Merrionette Park
Have a good time for a great cause!
Proceeds benefit services for adults with developmental disabilities at Garden Center
Enjoy a full buffet and 5 hour open bar including draft beer, wine and soda. Dance to the rock stylings of the LIVE band LAST CALL. The fun continues with a live art auction, silent auction and raffles.
Tickets are $30 in advance/ $35 at the door.
Please visit www.GardenCenterServices.org for more information & to purchase tickets.

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Theresa Dawson Conover, RN Ed, founder
Hilary Duggan, Care Coordinator

Musichorale
presents their
66th Spring Concert
Melodies from your Memories
Jeffrey Silhan, Director
Frank Sinatra Andy Williams W.A. Mozart
Sunday, April 21, 2013
3:20 P.M.
To Purchase Tickets
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Call: (773) 239-6279
Or Visit Our Website:
www.musichorale.org
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Josh Groban Ella Jenkins Tony Bennett Johnny Mercer Charlie Chaplin

Help Us Rename
HELPING OUR HEROES
In May 2010, Art and Mary James, owners of HAYS Cleaning, Inc., based in Hickory Hills, started the Helping Our Heroes program to provide a 3-hour free house cleaning to US Veterans, active Military and their spouses. In 2011, collection of care package items was added to the program.
In 2012, they partnered with the St. Patricia Holy Name Society, a non-profit 501(c)3, for the collection and shipment of care package items. The HNS has an affiliation with Jim Kruse and Adopt-A-Platoon. Jim is in charge of the organization, based in Hickory Hills, which collects and ships packages monthly to the troops overseas.
The name was chosen as a compliment to Veterans and active Military. It has been pointed out that many Veterans and active Military do not like the word hero nor any reference to being a hero. They are SOLDIERS and that is how they prefer to be recognized.
Art and Mary want to rename the program, with the word "Soldiers" or "Military" in the name. They would like help from the community to choose the new name.
Through Friday, April 12, 2013, readers can submit name change ideas via email (mary@hayscleaning.com), on Facebook (www.facebook.com/hayscleaning) or on the "Heroes" website (www.helping-our-heroes.com). A poll will be created from suggestions to choose the new name. Voting will be open from April 15-22, 2013. The top three winners will be awarded prizes.
For more details, visit www.Helping-Our-Heroes.com, www.HAYSCleaning.com or call 708-598-3819.

Midlothian Public Library exploring stress

Explore "Stress, and its' Negative Effects" on May 2, 2013, at 6:30 pm in the Midlothian Public Library meeting room, 14701 S. Kenton Ave., Midlothian. Presenter Linda M. Sutton, MA LCPC, of Orland Park Counseling (www.orlandparkcounseling.com), will discuss the effects of stress, self-awareness and basic stress management skills. This seminar is for those who seek to understand and more effectively manage their stress level, while maintaining or improving their physical and mental well-being. Register at www.midlothianlibrary.org or by calling the Reference Desk at 708-535-2027.

The Chicago Catholic League celebrates 100 years

The Chicago Catholic League will be celebrating its 100th Anniversary as the oldest continuous high school athletic league in the United States on Wednesday, May 8, 2013 at Drury Lane Oak Brook.

The celebration begins at 6:00 pm with dinner being served at 7:00 pm. Cost of a ticket is $65.00. Tickets can be purchased at any Chicago Catholic League High School until April 19. No tickets will be sold at the door.

For further information, contact Mr. Jim Muting at 708-458-6900 ext. 212; Mr. Jim Prunty at 312-421-5900 or the athletic director at any Chicago Catholic League High School for further information.

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2 Bedrooms $805

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Saturday, April 13th
between 11:00 am to 2:00 pm
or
Saturday, May 18th
between 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Zeiler Management, Inc. ~ 12159 S. Pulaski Rd.
708-597-3333

Spaghetti Dinner

Marrs Meyer American Legion Auxiliary, located at 10010 Depot St., Worth, will be hosting an all you can eat spaghetti and meatball dinner from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm on Friday, April 19, 2013. Call 708-448-6699 for more information.

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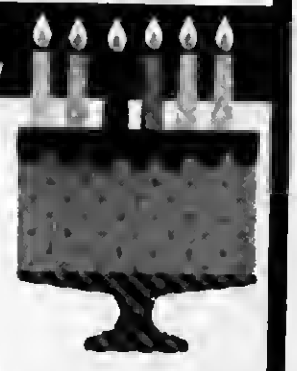

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Coalition Party of Justice
Coalition Party of Justice... Working to keep your trust in us
Continuing On the Road to Progress, Service and Balance

To continue the Progress, Service and Balance in Justice
Vote straight Coalition Party of Justice on
Tuesday, April 9, 2013
Coalition Party of Justice Candidates:
Krzysztof (Kris) Wasowicz for Village President....Punch 11
Kathleen (Kathy) Svoboda for Village Clerk....Punch 13
Edward (Ed) Rusch Jr. for Trustee.....Punch 15
Melanie (Mel) Kuban for Trustee.....Punch 16
Henry (Hank) Oszakiewski for Trustee.....Punch 17

The Coalition Party of Justice commitment:
- Continue to maintain a balanced operating budget.
- Develop Enterprise Zone agreements to expand our tax base.
- With a balanced operating budget, we will seek "matching funds" grants for beautification of village green spaces.
- Continue to work with our businesses to support all business growth opportunities.
- Continue to clean-up and maintain abandoned property by using subsidy funding.
- Replace the Roberts Park Sewer Lift Station with funds saved and not borrowed.
- Continue to cooperate with the County to accomplish the multi-jurisdictional, Roberts Road flooding project.
- Fix 4 (four) major residential streets with State Grant funding.
- Fix at least 6 (six) residential streets per year utilizing the combined efforts of our recently certified VOJ public work staff and our new grinding and paving equipment.
- Complete the reconstruction and the beautification of Frontage Road (a $million dollar plus – project).

Paid for by the Coalition Party of Justice

A copy of our report filed with the State Board of Elections is (or will be) available on the Board's official website (www.elections.il.gov) or for purchase from the State Board of Elections, Springfield, IL.

Re-Elect
UNITED PARTY OF WORTH TOWNSHIP

JOHN F.	**MURPHY**	SUPERVISOR
ROGER	**BENSON**	CLERK
JOHN Z	**TOSCAS**	ASSESSOR
STEVE	**LOULOUSIS**	HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER
MICHAEL	**MAHONEY**	TRUSTEE
JOHN "JACK"	**LIND**	TRUSTEE
DAVID	**WALSH**	TRUSTEE
KELLY B	**HOULIHAN**	TRUSTEE

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Just Good Government!!!
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Supervisor
John D. Lord
Clerk
Willie A. Jones
Assessor
John P. Flaherty
Highway Commissioner
Keith Gomillia
Trustee
Norman F. (Norm) Pestlin
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Trustee

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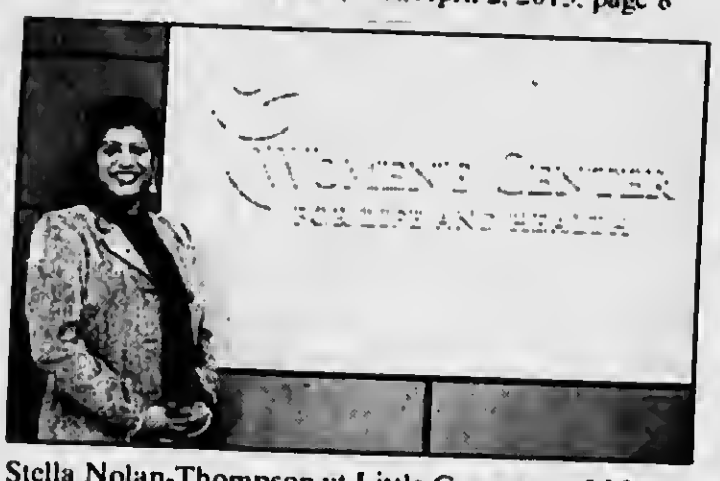

Stella Nolan-Thompson ut Little Company of Mary's Nationally Accredited Comprehensive Breast Health Center.

Local Beverly woman receives life saving cancer treatment at Little Company of Mary's Nationally Accredited Comprehensive Breast Health Center

Life for Stella Nolan-Thompson was quite normal. Stella was a busy wife, mother of two, and a corporate events planner for a well-known financial institution. On many occasions Stella found herself consumed with the day-to-day activities as many women today feel.

Despite juggling work, home and civic obligations, Stella did it all with a smile. "As chaotic as my life sounds, I loved it and wouldn't trade it for the world, said Stella. I'm not any different than my sister, neighbor, co-worker or any other working mother of today. It's who we are, we are pioneers and we are resilient."

In December 2008, Stella was given the devastating news that brought a halt to her busy life. Stella was diagnosed with Stage-1 invasive ductal carcinoma breast cancer commonly referred as IDC. IDC is a type of cancer that starts in the milk ducts of the breast and spreads to other areas of the body. IDC is the most common breast cancer diagnosis and accounts for about eight out of 10 of all invasive breast cancers today. This type of breast cancer can be found in men as well as women, and can occur at any age. Most patients with IDC are 55 or older at diagnosis.

Just two days before Stella's 50th birthday, she found comfort and treatment at Little Company of Mary's Nationally Accredited Comprehensive Breast Health Center. Stella received chemotherapy, MammoSite® radiation, lumpectomy, and hormone therapy.

"After undergoing a lumpectomy, Stella received partial breast radiation. This administers radiation using a balloon from within the breast over the course of five days. This is much shorter than the standard five to six weeks course of treatment using external beam radiation and has fewer side effects," said Dr. Nancy Taft, a fellowship trained breast surgeon and medical director of the Comprehensive Breast Center at LCMH.

Four years after Stella's battle with cancer, she is cancer free and is taking the time to stop and smell the roses. Stella decided to become a stay-at-home wife and mother. "I'm taking this experience as a wake-up call to relax and enjoy life. Life is so precious and we often take it for granted," said Stella. Stella decided to pursue her lifelong passion to create handcrafted jewelry. Many of her stylish creations feature breast cancer awareness charms to remind women that they are resilient and beautiful-no matter what curve balls life throws at them.

October 24, 2012, marked the opening of the new LCM Comprehensive Women's Center for Life and Health, which continues to address women's health and wellness and provide forward-thinking, gender-sensitive healthcare for women of all ages. A first-of-its kind for the area, the Women's Center also is home to LCM's Comprehensive Breast Health Center, accredited by the NAPBC (National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers), which offers a full range of diagnostic care specialists, surgeons and radiation oncologists.

This NAPBC accreditation is only given to a select few centers across the country that have voluntarily committed to provide the highest level of quality breast care. The Center also offers an array of integrative therapy services, such as acupuncture, massage therapy and post-treatment esthetic care.

Please join us for the 14th Annual Beverly Breast Cancer Walk on Mother's Day, May 12, 2013. The walk starts at 8:00a.m. at Ridge Park located on 96th and Longwood, Chicago, Illinois. Register early to receive a t-shirt with your $30 entry fee. The entry-fee for children ages 18 and under is $15. Same-day registration is $5 more and t-shirt availability is not guaranteed. All proceeds benefit Little Company of Mary's Nationally Accredited Comprehensive Breast Health Center. The Accredited Comprehensive Breast Health Center provides the latest technology and treatment approaches from an expert, caring medical team led by Breast Surgeon, Dr. Nancy Taft.

Smith CCRCs to hold Q&A sessions for caregivers coping with family members or friends who have Alzheimer's and dementia

Smith Crossing and Smith Village hold free support groups in April.

Southwestern Chicago and suburban families and caregivers of seniors living with Alzheimer's disease or dementia can get together with others who have the same concerns at a free Q&A meeting either Thursday, April 4, at Smith Crossing in Orland Park or Tuesday, April 9, at Smith Village in Chicago's Beverly neighborhood.

The hour-long gatherings at both continuing care retirement communities (CCRCs) begin at 6:30 p.m and will be open to questions and comments from the assembled group. Before ending, light refreshments will be served.

On April 4, Smith Crossing's social service director Amy Majcina will facilitate the discussion at 10501 Emilie Lane in Orland Park (enter at 104th Avenue and 183rd Street). To reserve a place, please call 708-326-2300.

April 9, Smith Village's memory support coordinator Diane Morgan will lead the meeting at 2320 W. 113th Place in Chicago. To reserve a seat, please call 773-474-7300.

St. Rita High School 77th Annual Alumni Banquet

St. Rita High School will host its 77th annual Alumni Banquet/Class Reunion Friday, April 19 at St. Rita High School, 7740 S. Western Ave. The annual banquet regularly packs St. Rita's gymnasium with 600+ alumni, friends, families, and other supporters of St. Rita High School.

This year, St. Rita will induct six men into its Hall of Fame. They are Jim Olichwier '62, Mike Mueller '63, John Flaherty '70, Jim Brasher '71, Joe Augustine '73, and Beverly's very own, Captain Herbie Johnson, from St. Rita's Class of 1976.

Captain Herbie Johnson of the Chicago Fire Department heroically gave his life saving others in a fire on November 2, 2012. He was a master fireman, and also a wonderful and loving husband, father, brother, uncle, cousin, and friend to thousands on the southside of Chicago and throughout every place he ever visited. He was the first in his family to attend St. Rita, and he set the tone for dozens of other Johnson men who would follow in his footsteps, including his sons, Tommy '04 and Mickey '11. St. Rita High School is honored to induct Captain Herbie Johnson into the Hall of Fame.

Other Ritamen will be honored with athletic, loyalty, and honorary alumnus awards, including the 2003 St. Rita Wrestling Mustangs, who were crowned IHSA state champions, and the 2003 St. Rita Running Mustangs basketball team, the 2003 Catholic League and Regional champions.

Ticket prices for the Alumni Banquet are $100 or $75. The $100 bonanza ticket includes entry into a cash-prize raffle drawing for the evening. Both tickets include appetizers, four-course gourmet dinner, and four-hour open bar on the evening.

Tickets can be purchased online via www.stritahs.com, by phone at (773) 925-5029, or by visiting the school during business hours (8:00am to 4:30pm).

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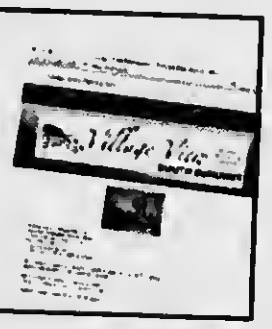


Pictured are the seniors with their honor cords.

St. Laurence holds NHS induction ceremony

St. Laurence High School recently held its annual National Honor Society Induction and Presentation of Honor Cords and Certificates. Included in the program were the presentation of honor cords to seniors, the presentation of recognition certificates to juniors who were already members, and the presentation of certificates to newly inducted sophomores and juniors. In addition, they had a mass led by Father Norman Trela, the Chaplain at St. Laurence.

"The members are not only scholars, but they exhibit strong humanitarian qualities, as well," said Mrs. Agnes Kasboske, one of the moderators of NHS. It is a pleasure to work with such an enthusiastic and dedicated group of young men." The National Honor Society is an organization founded in 1921 on the ideals of scholarship, character, service, and leadership.

Marian Catholic actors to perform "Beauty and the Beast" on April 19-21

The Marian Catholic Theatre Department is preparing for their upcoming performance of "Beauty and the Beast". The musical is scheduled for Friday, April 19, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, April 20, at 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, April 21, at 2 p.m.; in the Monsignor Croarkin Auditorium.

Based on the Academy/Award-winning animated feature, the stage version includes songs written by Alan Menken and the late Howard Ashman, along with new songs by Menken and Tim Rice. This "tale as old as time" is a wonderful story to enjoy with the entire family.

To purchase tickets, contact Diana McDonnell, Administrative Assistant, at 708-756-9768 or dmcdonnell@marianchs.com.

The Argentine Consulate and Chicago Opera Theater presents filmmaker Silvia Malagrino

On April 9, 2013 at 6:00 PM
Burnt Oranges, a Screening with Silvia Malagrino
Instituto Cervantes
31 W Ohio

Chicago filmmaker Silvia Malagrino film will allow you to join in on the examination of the long-term effects and repercussions of Argentina's 1970's state terrorism in her award winning documentary through a combination of intimate witness narration, interviews, documentary, and re-created footage. This personal and beautifully artistic account is a reminder of the global obligation to defend human rights and democratic values. Join us afterwards for a talk back with Silvia Malagrino as well as excerpts from COT's production of Maria de Buenos Aires.

The event is a collaboration between the Instituto Cervantes, the Argentine Consulate, and Chicago Opera Theater. $10 suggested donation

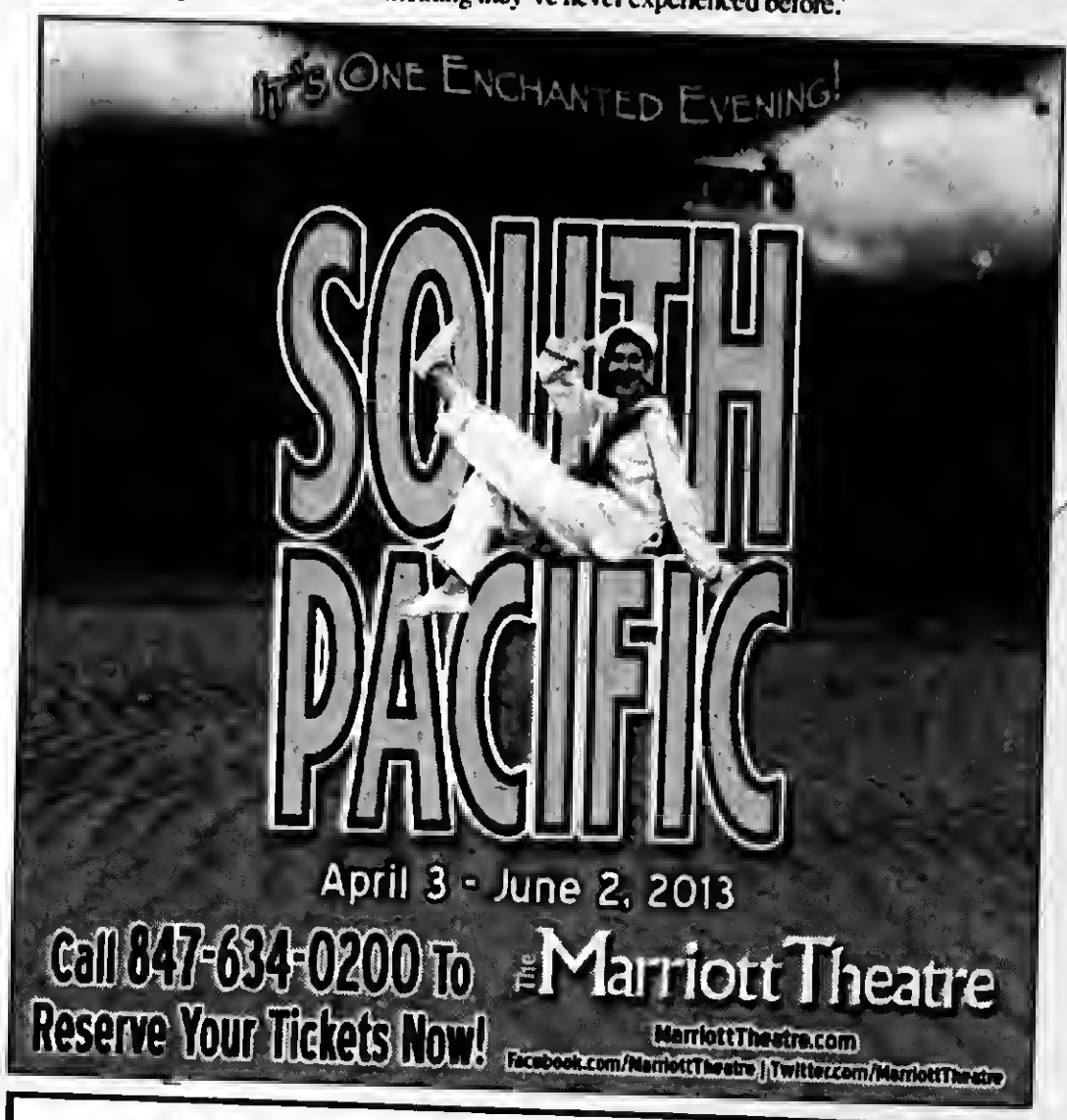
Zinnerman's stage adaptation of the Jungle Book

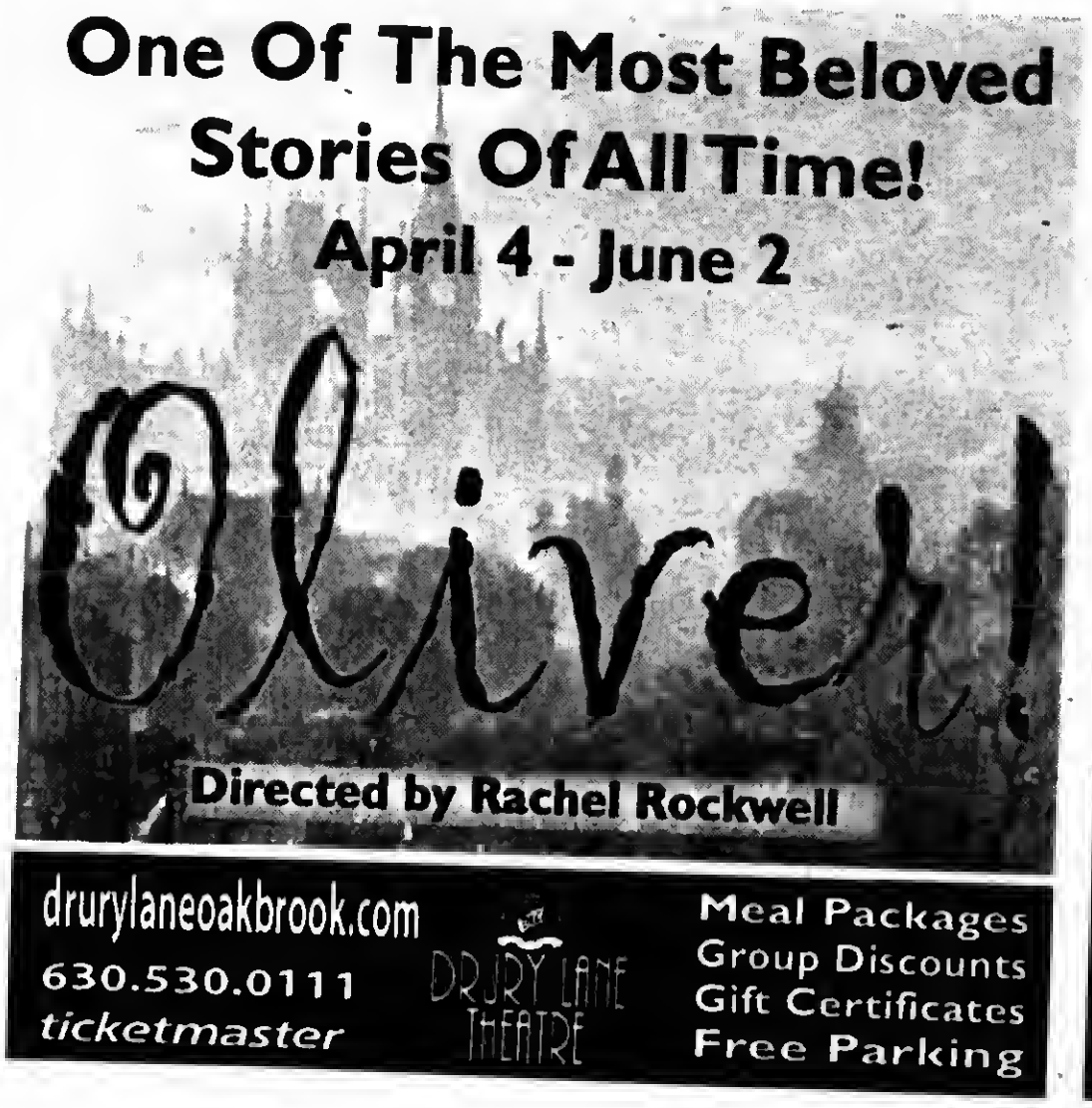
The creative team is set and casting is underway for The Jungle Book , Tony Award winner Mary Zinnerman's world-premiere is based on Walt Disney's 1967 animated film and Nohel Laureate Rudyard Kipling's 1893 collection of stories set in the Indian jungle.

The Jungle Book premieres June 21, thru July 28 at the Goodman; tickets $34-$105, are now on sale and available at GoodmanTheatre.org, by calling 312.443.3800 or visiting the Goodman box office 170 N. Dearborn St.

The all new orchestration includes a blend of Western instruments piano, bass, drums, trumpet, trombone, tuba, flute, clarinet, saxophone) and traditional Indian instruments (harmonium, sitar, veena, tablas, tanpura, ghatam, Carnatic violin.

"The Jungle Book music workshop proved to be a groundbreaking and thrilling experience," said Richard Sherman. "I'm delighted with the fusion of authentic Indian instrumentation with the fun of American jazz. Mary Zimmerman and Doug Peck are brilliant creators, and the world's going to see and hear something they've never experienced before."





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Fri., April 5, 9- 2
Sat., April 6, 9-1
Sat. Bag Sale at Noon
Lite Lunch
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To advertise in Crafters Corner, or Crafters Wanted, call Linda for more information at 708-425-1910.

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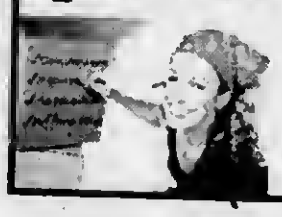
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* * *

Currently, a trial is under way that demonstrates that the rule of law is an important part of the social fabric of Morocco. It has also become an important part of the political and economic development of the country and the region.

* * *

A growing number of organizations are looking to volunteers to take on new roles. While a start-up investment of time is often required to develop the positions for volunteers, experience shows that it can pay great dividends. To learn more, visit www.agingnetworkvolunteercollaborative.org.

* * *

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Lower Alabama Gumbo Festival serves up world's largest pot of gumbo

Calling all foodies and professional chefs to compete for $4,000 in cash prizes.

Alabama restaurateur and former University of Alabama and Miami Dolphin great, Bob Baumhower, has teamed up with world-renowned Chef John Folse from Louisiana to create the inaugural L.A. Gumbo Festival set to take place April 11-13 at The Wharf in Orange Beach, Ala.

The festival kicks-off with the unveiling of the world's largest pot of gumbo on Thursday, April 11 at 4 p.m. prior to the Kenny Chesney concert scheduled to take place at The Wharf Amphitheater that evening at 7 p.m.

"Alabama and Louisiana have one of the greatest rivalries in the South, and what a greater way to showcase that competitive spirit than the L.A. (Lower Alabama/Louisiana) Gumbo Festival," said Baumhower. "We teamed up with Chef Folse more than a year ago during the 2011 Alabama v. LSU game to cook the largest pot of gumbo as a fundraiser for the victims of the tornadoes in Tuscaloosa, and it was such a success that we decided to continue the tradition."

Baumhower and Folse have recruited some celebrity pot stirrers to participate including the following:

Athletes

• Kenny Stabler–1976 NFL Most Valuable Player, four-time Pro Bowler with the Oakland Raiders, member of the NFL's 1970s All-Decade Team, and All-American and football legend at the University of Alabama and1967 Sugar Bowl MVP

• Dwight Stevenson–NFL Hall of Famer, Five-time Pro Bowler with the Miami Dolphins, member of the NFL's 1980s All-Decade Team, All-American at the University of Alabama

Chefs & Writers

• Chef Rick Tramonto–2002 James Beard award for Best Chef Midwest, co-owner of Restaurant R'evolution located in the Royal Sonesta Hotel in New Orleans, 2004 Top 10 Best New Chefs for Food & Wine magazine, with accolades from Nation's Restaurant News, Zagat and Wine Spectator, to name a few

• Martie Duncan–Next Food Network Star Finalist and owner of Martie Knows Parties

• Chef Steve Zucker–Corporate chef for Bob Baumhower's restaurant group, Aloha Hospitality, named one of the "Ten Chefs to Watch" by Esquire, one of two "Great Young Chefs" from Southern Living, 2010 & 2011 nominee for Chef of the Year from the Alabama Restaurant Association.

• David Holloway–food writer for al.com/Press-Register and noted authority on gumbo

Up to 48 foodies and professional chefs from both states are expected to compete in a series of gumbo cook-offs for $4,000 in cash prizes. Among the other activities attendees can expect to enjoy over the three-day festival are arts & crafts, kids activities, music, cooking demonstrations and voting for People's Choice and Best Overall Booth in the gumbo cook-offs, to name a few. Alabama Gulf Coast Zoo, Animal Planet's "Little Zoo that Could," will also be at the festival with an amazing variety of animals from alligators to kangaroos.

Proceeds from the event will be shared between Louisiana's charity of choice, Cypress Springs Mercedarian Prayer Center, and Alabama's charity of choice, Faulkner State Culinary School and Christian Service Center. Supporters of the festival include Alabama Gulf Seafood, the City of Orange Beach, Thompson Caterpillar and Tuscaloosa Scale.

The event is free and open to the public with tasting tickets for a cup of gumbo at $2 for an individual serving, or $20 for 30 servings.

For rules, regulation and registration in either the fondie or professional division OR for more information on the festival, please visit www.gumboforlife.com.

Obituary

Ernest E. Russell died on Monday, March 18, 2013, at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria, Ill.

Ernie was born at Methodist Hospital in Peoria, Ill., on July 20, 1938, the eldest child of Earl W. and Mary Jane Moore Russell.

He was raised in Lacon, Ill., and graduated from Mid-County High School in Varna, Ill.

He served in the United States Navy at the Naval hospital in Philadelphia, Pa., as a corpsman from 1956 to 1959.

He joined the Peoria Fire Department in 1967, and served in every rank from Firefighter to Chief.

He graduated from Illinois State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science in 1973, and with a Master of Science degree in Public Administration from Sangamon State University in 1975. He also earned an associate degree in Fire Science from Illinois Central College.

He was the city liaison during the construction of the Fire Training Academy on Galena Road and the construction of the Fire Central Station at Bryant and Monroe in Peoria. He served as Training Chief and Fire Prevention Chief during his tenure. He was named Chief of the Peoria Fire Department in 1994, where he remained until 2001, when he was appointed to the position of State Fire Marshal by the governor of Illinois. He worked for many years as a consultant with Resource Management Associates of Tinley Park, Ill.

He was hired as interim Fire Chief by the Village of Oak Lawn, Ill., in August 2008, and served through July 2009. He was appointed interim Fire Chief in Canton, Ill., and served there from November 2010 through June 2011.

Ernie was honored with the title of Fire Chief Emeritus in October 2011. This title is reserved for retired chiefs who have had distinguished careers and who have made significant contributions that set them apart from their peers. He ran for the Illinois State Senate in the 46th District in 2006.

Ernie is survived by his wife, Sara; daughters, Kelley Russell of Dallas, Texas, and Joan Ott of Peoria; sons-in-law, Bill Ott of Peoria and Jay Duke of Dallas; granddaughters, Katherine Taylor Duke of Dallas and Isabella Maree Ott of Peoria; and grandson, Jeremy Russell Ott of Peoria; brothers, Raymond Russell of Indianapolis, Iowa, and Robert (Jackie) Grieves of Lacon; sisters, Crystal Russell of Chillicothe and Melody Grieves of Wataga; and several cousins, nieces and nephews.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Illinois Fire Safety Alliance-Camp "I AM ME", P.O. Box 911, Mt. Prospect, IL 60056. Tributes and condolences may be submitted to www.wrightandsalmon.com.

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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 39 | Number 20 | April 16, 2013

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

Evergreen Park approves Independence Day Parade resolution

by Matt Mayer

A resolution for the 45th Annual Independence Parade to be held on Wednesday July 3 was approved at the brief April 1 Evergreen Park Board of Trustees meeting.

Mayor James Sexton announced that the village has mailed out animal license forms, which are due by June 1. Residents must bring in their current rabies information when renewing their pet's animal license.

In other village news: Waste Management has begun picking up the green yard containers. The Annual Memories to Go Villlage Garage Sale will be held at Yukich Field May 11, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Residents who wish to fill out a form reserving a selling area may obtain an application on line at the village website www.evergreenpark-ill.com. in person at the municipal building or the Community Center.

The deadline for the biannual Spring Tree Planting Program has been extended from April 5 to April 19. Trees are available at a reduced cost and can be selected for parkways, private property, or parks. The variety of trees along with prices may be viewed at the village website or in person at the municipal building. Residents may also call the municipal building at 708.422.1551.

Earth Day Celebration 2013

Celebrate Earth Day with the Oak Lawn Park District and Village of Oak Lawn on Saturday, April 27th, from 10:00am to 1:00pm, at Wolfe Wildlife Refuge located at 109th St., and Lawler Ave, in Oak Lawn.

Participate in all of the following family-fun activities: Big Run Wolves, Jim Nesci's Cold Blooded Creatures, hybrid and alternative fuel vehicle show, tree climbing demo, tree planting demo, kids activities and more. Free admission, raffles and giveaways!

Earth Day is a day that is intended to inspire awareness and appreciation for the Earth's natural environment.

For more information, please contact Dolly Foster at 708-857-2225.

Hickory Hills Alderman Tom McAvoy clarifies his position

by Jan Glaz

Election news became a topic of discussion at the City of Hickory Hills Board of Trustees Meeting held on Thursday, April 11th. Alderman Tom McAvoy clarified his position as 3rd Ward Alderman after citing a report on the front page of a major newspaper that he had departed. McAvoy stated that he was not being replaced by candidate Brian Foute as printed and repeatedly stressed. "I'm not out. I'm not going. I'm not gone. I won't be, at least until 2015, unless a much higher power takes me." Foute won the 3rd Ward seat vacated by Alderman Lou DeRose with a 58% lead; defeating rival Francine Schafer.

Election night, Tuesday April 9th, delivered landslide results as incumbents won re-election. Independent Candidate Stephen Novak lost the 1st ward seat to incumbent Alderman Brian Waight, who garnished 77% of the vote. Incumbent, Alderman Joseph Stachnik, took 83% of the vote in the 4th Ward, defeating his opponent, Independent, John Corasis. A referendum question also suffered defeat when voters refused to issue $30 million in bond money to construct a new Conrady Junior High School, in North Palos School District 117, in Hickory Hills.

Noteworthy: City Clerk Catizone requested a donation for the MS (multiple sclerosis) Walk to be held on May 5th, in the past the city had given $50-$100-$100. The request was approved for $100.00. The city clerk anoounced that on Saturday April 27th on 95th and Roberts Road, at Walgreens, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., there will be a National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, the Hickory Hills Police Departmeot will be present. In conclusion Clerk Catizone also reported that from February 21st to March 19th, thirteen homes have been sold in Hickory Hills and from March 20th until the present day, fourteen more houses have been sold, for a total of 27 sold.

Justice reports change in Village newsletters

by Jan Glaz

The Village of Justice newsletter is making news. Village Clerk Kathy Svoboda reported that in order to offset the cost of printing and mailing and to increase the number of newsletters per year to the residents, the Village of Justice will be accepting advertising from their local businesses. The Village will be soliciting advertising from Justice businesses for publishing in the quarterly newsletters at the rate of $50.00 for a business card sized ad or $100.00 for a quarter page ad and $200.00 for a half page (if and when a ½ page spot is available). Great rates and a great advertising opportunity for businesses, as the newsletter reaches close to 3000 households. Space is limited and will be on a first come first serve basis.

Trustee Small announced that Scholarship applications have been available on the website: downloaded at www.villageofjustice.org and for pick-up, since March 15, 2013, for high school seniors who reside in Justice. Applications will be accepted via e-mail, via fax or may be delivered or mailed to the Village of Justice Scholarship Committee, 7800 Archer Road, Justice, IL 60458 and can be dropped off at the Clerk's/Finance Office at the Justice Administration Building. Those who qualify should fill out the scholarship application and return it by May 1, 2013. The Village of Justice is offering $500.00 dollar Scholarships to defray college costs for graduating High School Seniors who reside in Justice and have distinguished themselves during their high school years. The Village stressed that all criteria is important, but service to your community is of particular interest to the committee. Winners will be notified, and scholarships will be awarded at a Regular Board Meeting in late May or early June.

End Note: A new business is coming to town in the Village of Justice. Sun & Shade Garden Center is opening on 79th Street at the Chicago Players Club Golf Range. There will be a 10% off coupon in the Village of justice newsletter.

Retired Police Chief honored by the Village Board

by Matt Mayer

The March 26 Oak Lawn Board of Trustees meeting was filled with family, friends, police and fire personnel there to honor retiring Police Chief Bill Villanova. He began his law enforcement career in 1977 as a patrol officer. I was the last police officer to be sworn in by Ernie Kolb when he was village clerk, said Villanova. He served as an evidence technician and field-training officer until his transfer to the Detective Division in 1989 where he earned the rank of Sergeant and became supervisor of the Tactical/Narcotics unit. He was selected to be team leader on the newly formed South Suburban Mayor Crimes Task Force and served in that capacity until 2003, when he was promoted to Lieutenant. In 2004, he was appointed Chief of Detectives and in 2006 he was appointed Police Chief.

Mayor Heilmann read Villanova's achievements and presented him with a plaque along with a framed proclamation. In an emotional response, Villanova thanked and praised the Oak Lawn Police Department. "This is a great police department. I couldn't be prouder leading this group of men and women", said Villanova. "The things you said about me struck me to the core. It means a lot to me that this department had your support and will continue even though I'm gone, said Villanova."

Other highlights: Heilmann presented a plaque and a $25 gift certificate to the winners of the Fire and Public Safety coloring contest. The winners were second to fourth grade students from Oak Lawn grammar schools. The Fire Safety recipients were as follows: Kayla O'Brien, First Place; Aleksandr Petrovic, Second Place; and Mila Revell, Third Place. The Public Safety recipients were Hiba Ouarerhni, First Place; Andy Schroeder, Second Place; and Alessandra Vincenteno, Third Place. A police department request to waive the formal bidding process and purchase a Ford Utility Police Interceptor from Hawk Ford for $27,660 was approved as well as an easement request from Advocate Christ Medical Center at 4510 W. 95th Street.

A request for the Sixth Annual Oak Lawn Community Multiple Sclerosis Walk to be held on May 5 at 9 a.m. at Richards High School, 10601 S. Central Avenue was approved as well as a request for 6th Annual Running for Hope 5K Run/Walk on June 2. Information may be obtained by calling Advocate Christ Medical Center at 708.684.8000.

The following proclamations were approved: The week of April 14 National Telecommunicators Week, April 22 as Earth Day and April 26 as Arbor Day. The April 9 Board of Trustees meeting was cancelled and the next meeting is April 23.

Village View

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 8 | April 16, 2013

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Tinley Park acknowledges life saving actions and heroic acts of valor at Village meeting

by Jan Glaz

On April 2nd, at the Village of Tinley Park Board of Trustee Meeting, Trustee Maher Presented Awards of Valor and Certificates of Recognition for the heroic lifesaving actions of the Fire Department, Police Department, Public Works Personnel and 911 operators, in regards to two life threatening incidents. Three Officers received Tinley Park's Highest Medal of Valor, an award rarely given: Detective Stan Teneza; Officer David Walker and Officer Russell Borrowdale for their actions in a Pond rescue at (Lake Katulapa) Lakewood and Lake Bluff on March 7th, 2013. At that time, the Tinley Park police officers jumped into action when they spotted two young girls who had fallen through the ice on a pond, they were about 20 feet from shore in six feet of icy water. The first officer to arrive saw one of the girls completely submerged and within minutes, officers formed a human chain and pulled both girls to safety. Medals of Valor were also presented to Sergeant Chris Butler and Officer David Walker for their actions on December 2, 2012, when the foundation of a Tinley Park home collapsed on two girls playing in a muddy construction trench in the 18300 block of White Oak Court. One girl, Nicole, was trapped in mud from the shoulders down and the other, Sarah, was underneath her.

Tinley Park versus online travel agencies: Before the meeting adjourned the Board of Trustees agreed to consider a resolution authorizing entering into an agreement with the Robert K Finnell, Bird Law Group, P.C.; the Crongeyer Law Firm, P.C.; the Clifford Law Offices and the Law Firm of Peterson, Johnson & Murray, Chicago, LLC to participate in litigation against online travel companies in an effort to recoup hotel tax revenue. The agreement would pursue action against the online travel companies that collect sales tax on rooms purchased through their service but the tax is not remitted to local governments. This would come at no expense and no risk to the Village and would not have a negative effect on local hotel operators. It is reported that other regional communities including Warrenville, Orland Park, Burr Ridge, Aurora and Oak Lawn have already entered into this agreement and that similar actions have successfully taken place throughout the country.

Park School Principal Sue Kuligoski leads the students in a celebration recognizing Autism Awareness day

Park School celebrates Light Up Blue for Autism

The students and staff of Park School in Orland Park celebrated World Autism Awareness Day. Park School Principal Sue Kuligoski joined the students and staff in the front of the School where she declared "Today is a very special day!" The group enthusiastically yelled out "Park School for Hope" as bright blue balloons and bubbles were released into the air by the students. Students wore blue in honor of the day and the school will also be collecting donations throughout the week that will go towards Autism Awareness.

Orland Park landmark set for rehabilitation

by Jan Glaz

On April 1st, at the Village of Orland Park Board of Trustees Meeting a motion carried to approve a Certificate of Appropriateness for the Franklin E. Loebe Recreation Center a local landmark. It is one of the buildings in the "Orland Park Village Center" campus. The campus is the best example of late 20th Century Prairie style architecture in Orland Park and arguably the region. It was designed and built by Ralph Johnson of Perkins & Will, a renowned and award recognized by the American Institute of Architects (AIA) with an AIA Certificate of Merit for Good Design. The campus is also considered an excellent example of modernist architecture in the Chicagoland area. It was modeled after the Town Hall of Hilversum, Netherlands (c. 1930s, a famous Dutch town known for its architecture and planning) by the famous Dutch architect Willem Marinus Dudok, who was influenced by the work of Frank Lloyd Wright and the Chicago Prairie style.

Three buildings, the Fredrick T. Owens Village Hall, William R. Vogel Civic Center and the Franklin E. Loebe Recreation Center were landmarked in 2008; however, the Village Center Campus is not listed on the National Register but considering the architectural significance and importance of the campus to the community and its contribution-functionally and architecturally-to the Chicago region, it has the potential to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places in the future. Changes made to the Village Center Campus buildings will be done according to the Secretary's Standards to preserve the original architectural integrity as much as possible and maintain the ability to achieve National Register status. The purpose of the rehabilitation will be to construct a new 1,260 square foot entrance for the Franklin E. Loebe Recreation Center and reception office, to make it more functional for day to day operations and to add an extra layer of security required to run a pre-school facility.

Also Approved before the meeting adjourned: A bid awarded to Joe Rizza Ford of Orland Park, Illinois, in an amount not to exceed $200,357.44. Three bids were received for processing on Thursday, February 14, 2013. Due to the Village's local vendor purchasing policy, Joe Rizza Ford of Orland Park, Illinois, was the low bidder who met all of the specifications as written. Their bid price for eight (8) Ford Police Intereceptor Sedans is $200,357.44. On January 26, 2013, a Police Department vehicle was involved in an accident resulting in the total loss of the Village's police car. Joe Rizza Ford has agreed to the addition of the vehicle at the bid price. The additional Ford Police Interceptor Sedan is approved at a cost not to exceed $25,044.68.

Oak Forest Train Station is on schedule

by Jan Glaz

The new Oak Forest Train Station, located at 159th and Cicero, is scheduled to arrive soon. The long awaited train station will have significant architectural details and elongated canopies with prominent columns and integrated landscaping. The new $3.4 million Metra station will feature several amenities, a warming shelter, bike parking and lockers, restroom facilities, indoor/outdoor seated waiting areas, and a geothermal heating system – one of many environmentally friendly features. Construction of the train station is expected to be completed in spring/summer 2013. Two grants paid for the project. Oak Forest received $1 million from the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association and $1.3 million from the Illinois Department of Transportation. The current station in Oak Forest serves about 1,600 weekday passengers and is on the Rock Island District route.

Residents beware: The City of Oak Forest updated an ordinance regarding residents who have unpaid water bills. Under the revised ordinance a lien can be placed for the total amount of the bill after 105 days. The ordinance applies to both occupied and unoccupied homes, including foreclosed residences. Prior to this revision, the ordinance applied to unpaid sewer bills.

End note: The Oak Forest Green Steps Commission will host an electronics recycling event in conjunction with Clean Up Day on Saturday, April 20 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the City Hall parking lot. The first 50 recyclers will receive a free eco-shopper tote.

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SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 14 | Number 8 | April 16, 2013

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Chicago Ridge Mayor receives recognition award

by Matt Mayer

Orland Park Police Chief Tim McCarthy at the Chicago Ridge Board of Trustees meeting presented Mayor Gene Siegel with an award of appreciation from the Majors Crimes Task Force. McCarthy thanked Siegel and the Village of Chicago Ridge for the use of the former village hall on 107th and Oak Street. He said the village has hosted the Major Crimes Task Force for several years during which time 350 murders were solved with a 70-percent clearance rate. with the village being a major part of accomplishing this goal.

Other highlights: A public works request to award a contract to Alsterda Construction the lowest bidder for $294,981.75 for a water a main project at 100th Street and Nottingham Avenue was approved. The village received a Community Block Development Grant (CBDG) award of $400.000 for eligible projects in lower income areas of the village. $294.981.75 of which is slated for the water main project.

Trustee Brad Grove said the demolition project at 10012 S. Major Avenue is in progress and is slated to be completed in approximately a month. May 5-13 was proclaimed Municipal Clerks Week and a request for Sertoma Candy Days on Sept. 6 and 7 was approved. Prior to adjournment of the meeting. Siegel requested a moment of silence for Illinois State Trooper James Sauter. 28 who lost his life in a tragic accident. Sauter grew up in Chicago Ridge and his parents still reside in the village. "He was a very nice young man and will be greatly missed. On behalf of the Village of Chicago Ridge. I extend our deepest sympathy to the Sauter family". said Siegel.

Palos Heights crossing guard honored for thirty years of service

by Matt Mayer

The April 2 Palos Heights City Council meeting commenced with Mayor Robert Straz presenting a recognition award to Mellody Kocis for 30 years of service with the Palos Heights Police Department. A request from Ald. Basso. the Municipal Grounds and Property Chairman. to execute a contract with TruGreen for $9.294.00 to provide fertilizer and weed control on city-owned properties for the 2013 season was approved as well as a request for Straz to execute the acceptance form for the tree inventory and Emerald Ash Borer Plan Grant for $19.750.00. which was received from the Metropolitan Mayor's Caucus.

Other highlights: An ordinance request from Ald. Clifford, the Planning and Zoning Chairman, for a zoning reclassification. from "B" to Planned Unit Development (PUD) for property at 12306-12320 S. Harlem Avenue, was approved as well as a zoning reclassification from Residential "R" to (PUD), for property located at 12312 S. 72nd Avenue. Brigid Capital Investments requested these changes.

Requests from Ald. McGrogan, the License. Permits and Franchises chairman, to amend Chapter 156: Property maintance code by adding Sections 156.02, lighting in residential districts and 156.03 regarding penalties to the municipal code was approved. An ordinance request amending the International Property Maintenance Code by adding Section 308.04 regarding garbage and debris and a request to authorize the city attorney Tom Brown to draft an ordinance to amend the International Property Maintance Code by deleting Section 307.3.4 regarding garbage and debris was also approved.

A request to conduct the Annual Palos Baseball and Girls Softball Opening Day Parade on Saturday. April 20 from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. from Palmer Park to Community Park was approved.

Moraine Valley Technology building open house

Take a tour and learn about the Computer-Integrated Technology department at an open house at Moraine Valley Community College on Friday. May 10. 6 to 9 p.m. in the Center for Contemporary Technology. Building T. 9000 W. College Pkwy in Palos Hills.

Current, high school or potential Moraine Valley students and community members are welcome to attend and learn about the technology-based programs offered at the college including mechanical design/CAD, computer animation. management information systems. cybersecurity, computer networking. and more. The Center for Contemporary Technology was recently renovated. and tours will be available in addition to presentations and demonstrations throughout the building. A representative from Moraine Valley's Admissions Office will be on hand as well as personnel from several four-year universities to talk about transfer agreements. Refreshments also will be available.

There is no need to RSVP. just show up and learn how to get involved in technological programs at Moraine Valley.

For additional information, contact Chuck Bales at (708) 974-5401 or Bales@morainevalley.edu or Ricky Moore at (708).974-5333 or MooreR@morainevalley.edu.

Join the Worth Cruisers Car Club

Join The Worth Cruisers Car Club every Monday night from 6-9pm at the Water's Edge Golf Club for an evening of classic cars, music and more!

The Water's Edge is located at 7205 w 115th Street at 115th and Harlem Ave. The event is open to new participants.

A special car show will be held on Sunday, June 16th at the metra station in Worth. This event will benefit the Veteran's Memorial restoration.

For more information on the Worth Cruisers Club. Facebook or email us at wortheruisenights@yahoo.com.

You can also call Dan Knight at 312-231-2599 or Larry Mysliewic at 708-296-4961.

AVADA hearing seminar

The Palos Township Health Service will present an AVADA hearing seminar on April 19th from 9am until 12 Noon at the Palos Township building at 10802 S. Roberts Road, in Palos Hills.

The diseussion will address types of hearing loss. Participants will be able to be screened for hearing loss, free of charge if they wish. at that same time.

Call the Health Service at 708-598-2441 to reserve your spaee.

Intersection named to honor Robert Burns

The intersection of 112th and Depot was named for Robert Burns. (center). Cub Scout Pack 3668 and Boy Scout Pack 668 of Worth honored Burns for his service to the scouts, his philanthropic work for various organizations, including the Worth Food Pantry, American Legion Post #991 and Worth Historical Museum. Burns has served the Worth Boy Scouts for over 50 years.

Village View

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B-MAC EDITION

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Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Crestwood Police honored by State of Illinois

by Jan Glaz

Amid a burst of applause. Deputy Chief David Weignad and Commander Garry Winer accepted a great honor at the April 5th Village of Crestwood Board of Trustees Meeting. A Certification Award from The Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System (ILEAS) for completion of a voluntary agency preparedness program to allow law enforcement in Illinois to be prepared to handle emergeneies and crisis in communities. ILEAS was formed in 2002 in response to the September 11th attacks as a joint venture of the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police, the Illinois Sheriffs' Association, and the Illinois Emergency Management Agency. The training preparedness program is created to meet the needs of local law enforcement throughout the State of Illinois in matters of mutual aid, emergency response and the combining of resources for public safety and terrorism prevention and response. Meeting all the objectives necessary to achieve certification is a diligent endeavor requiring hard work. 942 law enforcement agencies belong to ILEAS. 150 are in the process of completing the program. 14 law agencies in the State of Illinois have received certification; Crestwood was the 10th to be honored. "We're very, very, proud of our Police Department; they do a great job and this is another indication of what they do...," said Mayor Robert Stranezek.

Meeting endnotes: Before approval of a Consideration of an Amendment to Stadium Lease for Crestwood Professional Baseball, LLC, Mayor Stranezek disclosed to the public that his brother is part owner of Thunder Bolts Baseball Team and as such he would refrain from comments on the matter. The Board of Trustees accepted hond and oath for Michael Moreno, for the Crestwood Fire Department.

Midlothian Officials commend Police Officers

by Jan Glaz

The April 10th Village of Midlothian Board of Trustees Meeting began with a presentation by Mayor Terrence Stevens commending the actions of the Midlothian Police Officers involved in providing assistance for an incident that occurred in Tinley Park. Shortly after 3 p.m., on March 21st, a young man was shot and killed outside a Tinley Park Seven-Eleven in a robbery turned homicide, the offender fled and became the subject of an intense multi-jurisdictional manhunt. The immediate response of the Midlothian Police Department aided in apprehending the suspect within 25 minutes. The Police Officers who received the commendation, a thank you letter from the Tinley Park Police Department, praise and a burst of applause are: Deputy Chief Steve Zamiar; Lieutenant Harold Kaufman; Detective Adam Panozzo; Officer Kevin Tracy; Officer John Pace; Officer John Schavone; and equally commendable, the actions of off duty Police Officer Matt Eggebrecht, who arrived on the scene and gave excellent assistance to the victim until units arrived. Mayor Stephens also drew attention to a large drop in the crime rate in Midlothian, due to the individual acts of all Midlothian Police Officers, especially during the routine activities of patrol. "I thank you all," said Stephens.

Other business before the meeting adjourned: an Ordinance of the Village of Midlothian, Cook County, Illinois, Providing for the Issuance of General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2013, providing the Details of such Bonds and for a Levy of Taxes to Pay the Principal of and Interest on such Bonds and Related Matters passed with full board approval. Mayor Stephens explained that the approved ordinance is in regards to stretching out payments to enhance Village cash flow. Bob Vail from Bernardi Securities reported that this action became necessary due to the fact that bond insurers turned the village down due to rating and it is now feasible to shorten the issue, instead of going to 2026, the payments will shorten three years, to 2023, this will also keep the interest rate low.

MetroSouth Adult and Senior Health Center

Dr. Rajesh Iyengar, a board-certified geriatrician and Medical Director of the new MetroSouth Adult & Senior Health Center. The brand new center, is conveniently located on the first floor of MetroSouth Medical Center in Blue Island at 12935 S. Gregory St. Blue Island. The Center is the region's first to exclusively treat senior citizens and adults with chronic and debilitating conditions. Specially-trained physicians at the Center are experts in health care for seniors and patients with geriatric syndrome, which is one or more related medical conditions, including vision, hearing and speech problems, incontinence, dizziness and dementia. The Center provides free valet parking and wheelchair transportation.

Call 855-676-2111 for futher informaiton and appointments.

Alsip conducts study regarding Pulaski Road corridor

by Jan Glaz

At the April 1st Village of Alsip Board of Trustees Meeting Mayor Patrick Kitching announced that the village is conducting a study in regards to the Pulaski Road Corridor and that all residents were welcome to participate. The survey takes approximately 10 minutes and the Village Hall is offering the use of a computer, for anyone who doesn't have one. The link for the study is http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Alsip_Survey_Final . The input is invaluable in identifying ways to improve Pulaski Road and will help determine the future of the Pulaski Road Corridor.

A motion carried to adopt the new "Alsip Comprehensive Plan", the plan is now in its final stages. Alsip's previous plan dates back to 1966. The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) provided a technical assistance grant to the Village valued at $150,000.00. The plan envisions housing and commercial opportunities for the future of Alsip over the next 25-30 years, and is an important advantage to the Village when applying for future grants. "Over two hundred and fifty applications were received by CMAP and Alsip was one of the first sixteen communities to receive the grant," said a representative from the agency." in addition, "because the economy changes, the plan will be flexible and revisited every 5 to 10 years."

Other approvals before the meeting adjourned: A Resolution Regarding the Class 6b Real Estate Tax Incentive Renewal Application for Midwest Laminating & Coating, Inc. f/k/a Midland – Chicago Corporation for Property Located at 5300 W. 127th Street; a request to hire one officer on May 1st to start at the police academy on May 6th, to replace Officer Bukala; approval of a refund of $190.25 to Galaxy Environmental, Inc. for a permit that was issued to the wrong contractor; FJ Development Corporation was granted approval to start working on the foundation and the shell for the Advance Auto Parts Building located at 4030 W. 115th Street; and The Alsip Park District received a waiver of fees for temporary tents and a fireworks display on Saturday, June 15, 2013, for the annual Family Fest.

Ground breaking for Mariano's Fresh Market in Oak Lawn

The Village of Oak Lawn is excited to announce the ground breaking ceremony for Mariano's Fresh Market, the anchor tenant at the 111th Street and Cicero Avenue development.

The Oak Lawn Mariano's is the 10th announced Mariano's store, after the first store opened in Arlington Heights in July of 2010. The 70,000 square-foot neighborhood shopping environment will employ about 400 people and will feature upscale architectural aesthetics, and both locally grown food and specialty products imported from the world over.

The Village and Mariano's will continue to work together with the developer, Hamilton Partners, to secure other successful tenants in the overall development. Additional information is available by contacting Larry R. Deetjen at ldeetjen@oaklawn-il.gov or 708-499-7743.

Medication disposal day

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day is Saturday April 27, 2013.

Is your medicine cabinet filled with expired prescription drugs or medications you no longer use? It's important to dispose of them properly to avoid harm to others and the environment. Recent U.S. Geological Survey studies have found traces of painkillers, estrogen, antidepressants, blood pressure medicines, etc. in water samples from 30 states. Studies have also linked hormone exposure to reproductive defects and environmental exposure from antibiotics to the increase in development of drug-resistant germs.

Cook County Board Commissioner Joan Murphy, (6th District) would like residents to take advantage of community drug take back programs, that allow the public to bring unused prescription drugs to collection sites for proper and safe disposal.

Medicine Take Back programs for disposal are a safe way to remove expired, unwanted or unused medicines including Pet medications from the home. Flushing pharmaceuticals down the toilet are now considered the least desirable way of disposal. If you have question regarding disposal please call 1-888-INFO-FDA.

The DEA and local law enforcement partners have collected more than 2 million pounds of prescription medication. The take back program aims to provide a safe, convenient and responsible means of disposal, while education the general public.

National Take-Back Day is April 27, 2013 from 10 a.m. to 2p.m. at various location sites:

Alsip Police Department, 4500 W. 123rd Street

Palos Heights Police Department, 7607 W. College Drive

Oak Lawn Police Department, 109th Street and Laramie Ave

Orland Hills Police Department, 16039 S. 94th Ave (year round EPA collection site)

Orland Park Police Department, 15100 S. Ravina Ave

Orland Park, Smith Crossing, 10500 Orland Parkway

Tinley Park Police Department, 7850 183rd Street

Please contact the Take-Back Call Center at 1-800-882-9539 if you require additional collection site information.

Commissioner Joan Murphy is concerned about health and safety in our homes, community and environment. Please dispose of your medications properly and responsibly at a Take Back Collection Site. In addition, Orland Hills Police Department is a full time collection site available year round.

Rep. Lipinski (center) accepts the Biological and Ecological Sciences Coalition Award from Dr. Scott Collins, president of the Ecological Society of America, and Dr. Joseph Travis, president of the American Institute of Biological Sciences.

Representative Lipinski wins Biological & Ecological Sciences Coalition Award

Congressman lauded for commitment to biological research.

Representatives Daniel Lipinski (D-Illinois) and Dave Reichert (R-Washington) are the recipients of the 2013 Biological and Ecological Sciences Coalition (BESC) Congressional Leadership Award. The award is given to recognize congressional leaders who have demonstrated a commitment to promoting public policy that advances the nation's scientific research enterprise.

"We are fortunate to have two such strong supporters of the natural sciences in Congress," said Nadine Lymn, co-chair of BESC and director of public affairs for the Ecological Society of America. "Representatives Lipinski and Reichert have repeatedly demonstrated that they value the contributions of biology and other sciences to society and believe that sustaining the nation's research and technology enterprise is a worthy investment."

Lipinski is the Ranking Member on the House Subcommittee on Research. He sponsored the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2010, which authorized increased funding for the National Science Foundation; the legislation became part of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act, which was signed into law in 2011. Lipinski is a vocal supporter of the use of prizes to stimulate innovation, and successfully amended U.S. law to allow federal agencies to award cash prizes to innovators. The congressman is also a co-chair of the House Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics Education Caucus, and a member of the Congressional Research and Development Caucus.

Reichert has worked actively to conserve the wild areas of Washington state and the nation. A former member of the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee, he sponsored a resolution that recognized the contributions of female scientists. Reichert was one of only 17 House Republicans to support the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010. He is co-chair of the National Parks Caucus and National Landscape Conservation Caucus, and a member of the Congressional Biomedical Research Caucus and Wild Salmon Caucus. Reichert is chair of the Human Resources Subcommittee of the House Ways and Means Committee.

"Representatives Lipinski and Reichert are steadfast advocates for scientific research, particularly at the National Science Foundation," said BESC co-chair Robert Gropp, director of public policy at the American Institute of Biological Sciences. "They both appreciate that research drives innovation, contributes to the solution of complex problems, and will help drive new economic growth."

Allstate Arena gets state-of-the-art LED and audio system from Panasonic

Improved elements include a full-color 4-sided center-hung LED system with halo rings, a premium audio system, and a 360-degree fascia.

Panasonic Eco Solutions North America (Panasonic) has designed, built and installed a cutting-edge, LED center-hung video scoreboard and a 360-degree ribbon display that will be integrated with a concert-quality Panasonic audio system at Allstate Arena, located in Rosemont, Ill. The improvements to the Arena are part of a multi-phase partnership with the Village of Rosemont that also will encompass improvements to the Rosemont Theater, MB Financial Park at Rosemont and Donald E. Stephens Convention Center. The new installations have been custom designed to enhance live event viewing at the Arena by further engaging spectators in one of the Chicago area's most vibrant and growing entertainment districts.

"We are grateful to Panasonic for their tremendous contribution to our community," said Rosemont Mayor Bradley Stephens. "We are committed to bringing our residents and guests the finest in entertainment, and having Panasonic as a partner allows us to utilize the newest technological innovations available to enhance their experience as they visit our sports, performance, convention and recreational venues."

Panasonic updated the Allstate Arena with a four-sided, center-hung, 6-mm pixel pitch Surface Mount Device (SMD) LED. Each side features a 9.4 foot-high by 12.58 foot-wide video board, complete with pyrotechnics, upper and lower 16-mm full-color halo rings measuring 2.1 feet-high by 62.99 feet-wide and 2.1 foot-high by 50.39 foot-wide respectively, and a decorative bottom cap with naming rights. For further enhancement, the installation included a 360-degree fascia LED video display, extending 680 feet-long and 2.1 feet-high, and four 85" flat panel displays were also installed in the concourse area. The complete LED solution immediately improves the fan experience by offering live action, replays, statistics, as well as graphics and animations. The entire project was implemented in three phases, with the final part, including Panasonic's integration of a state-of-the-art premium audio system, with completion estimated for the end of the month.

"With expertise in the design, build and installation of A/V systems, our team came up with a solution that would meet the specific needs of Allstate Arena, which included as many legacy components integrated into the control equipment as possible. This system install also showed how we successfully face challenges associated with a very active schedule within a tight timeline," said Richard Ballard, VP Sales & Marketing, Panasonic Eco Solutions North America. "Providing a one-stop solution for our customers is just another way Panasonic adds value for its customers like Allstate Arena."

For more information, please call (877) 438 7881 or email enterprise@us.panasonic.com.

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We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

Attention community business owners and schools or churches

Letter from a Boy Scout community member:

I am an adult committee member of a Hickory Hills and Palos Hills Boy Scout Troop #1373. We need some assistance from the business community in the Hickory Hills or Palos areas. We have a trailer that is used to store camping supplies and that is stored when not in use in the parking lot of a church in Palos Hills. However there are numerous items that we have that are scattered around in the homes of our members taking up valuable garage and or closet space. The BSA is a non profit charitable origination with a tax ID number. We are looking for help from the business community for a space to store all of our items in one place. All we would need is the size of an average bedroom closet.

Please call Roger Havlick at 708-990-2585.

Orland Township to host Senior American Idol fundraiser

Orland Township is hosting a second major fundraiser for its scholarship foundation. "Senior American Idol", presented by Supervisor Paul O'Grady and the Elected Officials, is scheduled for Thursday, May 9, 2013 from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. It will be held at Georgios Banquets, 8800 W. 159th Street. All ages are welcome.

Tickets are still available for $25 and can be purchased at the Orland Township office, 14807 S. Ravinia Avenue, during business hours. All proceeds will benefit the scholarship foundation.

The evening will begin with a cocktail hour from 5 to 5:30 p.m. and dinner will be promptly served at 5:30 p.m. The after-dinner singing competition will be hosted by HGTV Design Star's Kevin Grace. Grace, a Chicago native, has been decorating retail spaces and homes for the past 20 years, using his distinct style and vision to make each project uniquely his own.

16 singers, selected after a February tryout held at the township, will perform before a panel of distinguished judges, including two American Idol contestants: Gina Glocksen, who finished in ninth place on Season 6, and Kyle Dee, a Season 11 competitor. Both American Idol alumni will perform a song for the audience's enjoyment.

The two singers will also share the judging panel with radio personality Rich Renik of WCCQ, talent agency owner Don Underwood and local entertainers Mr. and Mrs. "O". Musical accompaniment for the singers will be provided by The Band Sundance.

In addition, the evening will include a red carpet for the singers and attendees to have their pictures taken, in true Hollywood fashion, and raffle and contest opportunities, with proceeds once again benefitting the Orland Township Scholarship Foundation.

"This will be a big night for the scholarship foundation and for our seniors, who I can't commend enough for their bravery in auditioning and performing for this occasion," said O'Grady. "Our young scholars are going to benefit greatly, and those who join us for the evening will not be disappointed with the entertainment. It's certainly going to be a night to remember."

"Senior American Idol" auditions can be viewed on Supervisor O'Grady's Facebook page, search: "Paul O'Grady, Orland Township Supervisor".

For additional information or for upcoming events, please call (708) 403-4222 or visit www.orlandtwp.org.

Justice Public Library programs

Justice Public Library is located at, 7641 S. Oak Grove Justice, Il., 708-496-1790. You must sign-up for these programs in advance.

Thursday, May 16, 2013 at 6:30 pm

Trash or treasure. An informative antique program where you can learn if your item is a treasure or?

Please bring only one item to show and learn about.

Thursday May 30, 2013 at 6:30 pm

An evening of Palm Readings with Bob Turcziak.

Our Summer reading program. Have book. Will travel...Kicks off with professional Magician & laugh-maker Magic Mike on Saturday June 15, 2013 at Noon.

Midlothian Library upcoming events

Book Sale in May

The Friends of the Midlothian Library-sponsored used book sale will take place at the library on June 1st, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Special "Members Only" sales for dues, paying Friends will be held on May 31st from 6 to 7 p.m. In addition to the usual assortment of hardback and paperback books, items at this sale will include compact discs and videocassettes donated by area residents. Proceeds from the sales are used to underwrite services and programs at the library, including the summer reading programs.

Midlothian Public Library

Explore "Stress, and its' Negative Effects", on May 2, 2013, at 6:30 pm in the Midlothian Public Library meeting room. Presenter Linda M. Sutton, MA LCPC, of Orland Park Counseling (www.orlandparkcounseling.com), will discuss the effects of stress, self-awareness and basic stress management skills. This seminar is for those who seek to understand and more effectively manage their stress level, while maintaining or improving their physical and mental well-being. Register at www.midlothianlibrary.org or by calling the Reference Desk at 708-535-2027.

Senior Spelling Bee

The Association of Illinois Senior Centers, the Illinois Department on Aging and the Midlothian Public Library will host a free Illinois State Senior Spelling Bee Competition for area senior citizens. On Tuesday, May 7 at 1pm the Midlothian Public Library, will host a local round of competition.

The Illinois State Senior Spelling Bee competition is an exciting statewide program that provides Illinois adults age 50 and older the opportunity to showcase a lifetime of knowledge and to celebrate years of experience through their spelling abilities.

Local spelling bees are being held throughout Illinois in 2013. Local winners and runners up will advance to regional semi-finals. The State Finals will be held at the Illinois Building at the 2013 Illinois State Fair on Senior Day, Monday, August 12, 2013.

For questions concerning the competition or to sign up for this free event, please contact a member of the Midlothian Library's Reference Staff at 708-535-2027 by May 6th.

The Midlothian Public Library is located at 14701 S. Kenton Ave., in Midlothian.

Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce to host Annual Health & Wellness Fair

The Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce will sponsor a Health & Wellness Fair on Thursday, April 18. The event will be held at the Oak Lawn Senior Center, 5330 W. 95th Street. The Fair will run from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The fair is open to anyone and the admission is free.

During the Health & Wellness Fair, Chamber businesses will showcase a variety of Products and services such as free blood pressure screenings, spinal screenings, BMI, Product samples, and more! Advantage Pharmacy, Advocate Christ Medical Center, ATI Physical Therapy, Cusack Insurance, Marshall Dental, Marquette Bank, MetLife, Midwest Orthopedics, Oak Lawn Fire Department, Oak Lawn Foot and Ankle, Southwest Orthopedics, Suit U Karma Yoga Studio, Suburban Bank & Trust, are just some of the many vendors.

No cost to attend. Open to all ages.

For more information, please contact the Chamber office at (708) 424-8300, or via email at office@oaklawnchamber.com.

Things to do in Evergreen Park

Farmers Market opens on Thursday, May 2!

Recreation Department Happenings

Preschool Registration Ongoing

Children who attend must be 3-years old and fully toilet-trained by the first day of school during the week of August 26, 2013. To register, you must provide the child's birth certificate, proof of residency and a $35 non-refundable deposit (which will be applied to the first pre-school payment). Check out www.evergreenpark-ill.com for a full list of Spring Programs!

Arthritis treatment

On Tuesday, April 23, Bremen Township will present "Arthritis Treatment & Self-Management" at 12:30pm at the Senior Center, 15350 S. Oak Park Ave., Oak Forest. No charge for Program. Hot Lunch is available to seniors age 60+ at Noon for a suggested donation of $4.00. Call 687-8220 with questions or to reserve your choice of Baked Fish or Chicken Breast (both in butter sauce) served with vegetables, brown rice/lentils, tossed salad and more! Please reserve your selection by Friday, April 19.

Advertise early for
Mother's Day
Brunches, Buffets,
Restaurants, Catering,
Bakery's, Deli's,
Meat Markets
Call about
Special Mother's Day
advertising specials at
708-425-1910.

Sketched by Nelida Ryl-Kuchar, resident of Oak Lawn, IL
Left to Right are Jason Moy, Anna Steinhoff, and Tobie Miller

Wednesday Evenings at 6:00 pm, the Showcase Music presents Sounds of the South Loop. The tickets are by donation at www.2ndpresbyterian.org/sounds-of-the-south-loop. Recently, three talented entertainers presented the audience with intriguing sounds from the eighteenth century with their instruments of that era. Tobie Miller played the hurdy-gurdy which was a replica of a 1763 instrument. Anna Steinhoff played her viola da gamba, which has a sound of the viola, but, the size is smaller than a cello and rests on the legs or slightly between them. Jason Moy is the Harpsichord Virtuoso and these performers entertained us in a true style of the French Baroque Period of the 18th Century. It was a unique experience since many of us had not experienced a true Baroque hizarre.

Other performances by the Sounds of the South Loop Spring 2013 include Sunday, May 12, at 2:30 pm Vissi d'Arte, Sounds of Serenity a special Mother's Day Program and Wednesday, May 22nd Music with Muscle: Brass Ensemble, Reg. donation are $15 online or $18 at the door. Senior and Students $8 online or $12 at the door. Sounds of the South Loop Artistic Director is Kim Dielmelt and she can be reached online at www.2ndpresbyterian.org. There is street parking close to the church. The location, of the concerts, is in the 2nd Preshyterian Church of Chicago, 1936 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 800-657-0687, there are tours frequently given, so call to arrange a group tour.

Perigord on the world stage for Lascaux cave art

by Annette Dixon

France has always been a world cultural country not only the city of Paris, but other parts of France. Many American Youth have studied the arts in France for years and now our Math and Business Majors are studying there once again. France has brought to America some of their history by replicating their Lascaux cave rock art. Lascaux was recognized by prehistorians from around the world for their decorated cave walls.

Lascaux III opened in Bordeaux, France and is now featured at the Chicago Field Museum until September 18. They will continue to exhibit in Montreal, Canada and Asia and Australia. This is the first cave in history to export its cave paintings in a 800m square module, which can be dismantled.

The film introduction from the Dordogne Tourism Board, along with their food and wine workshop highlighted the regions food and wine industries. The most exquisite wine comes from the family run businesses.

Head Chef, Vincent Arnould from Le Vieux Logis Hotel in Tremalat introduced his talents by serving french delights such as truffles, egg whites with delicacies in it and foie gras, duck meat made into a spread in a petite sugar or regular cone, so delicious. The products were frozen or refrigerated products of Rougie in France.

After trying various wines, my chose was a wine I had asked as to where I could order this in Chicagoland area. Ron Spears, the contact person, told me I can ask the proprietor to acquire it for me. When I specifically asked where will I be able to purchase this in Oak Lawn, Ron stated, "have you heard of Kenwood Liquors", walla, now I can order the Domaine l'Ancienne Cure from Perigord, France and it was a white Monbazillac.

If you have a desire or would like to try the wine from the Dordogne region, contact Ron Spears and get information from him at www.grapemewsimporting.com or call 773-665-1155.

In the cheese world, it may look like Munster but it is not, it is hearty, moist, and not dry like Munster Cheese and very fresh. You can get it at Whole Foods. It is called Chaumes (pronounced Shohm).

Now we cannot forget the Bovetti French dark chocolate! Bovetti chocolates are made with pure cocoa butter without any vegetable fat added or palm oil, both are forbidden in the factory. Teresa Kolodziej is a purchasing agent and works out of European Imports Ltd. in Chicago, her website is www.eiltd.com or call 773-292-5307.

Lastly, the chestnuts made in France are by far the best I have ever had. I have been to over 50 countries and have had my share of chestnuts. They come from Inovchataigne Sarl in Mussidan France. Inovchataigne Ltd. produces ready made vacuum sealed organic and conventional chestnuts that are all natural as well as preservative and coloring free. Each year, they process 500 tons of Chestnuts and exports 80% of its production to Northern Europe, Japan, Australia, Brazil, Mexico and the United States East Coast. There is a New Jersey Importer D'Artagnan Inc. at 976-344-0565. If you go to Dordogne in August or September, Perigueux will have 20 classical music concerts. Go online at www.festivalduperigordnoir.fr

Scott's Garage
Elim Benefit Car Show
Saturday, June 22nd, 2013
3rd Annual Show
Cars, Bikes & Trucks
13020 S. Central
Palos Heights, IL, 60463
Free admission
Show Vehicles:
Pre-Registration $15 • At Gate $20
Call 708-396-2082 or email elimshow@scottsgarage.net
Visit www.scottsgarage.net
This is a not for profit event;
all proceeds go to Elim Christian Services
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Visit our Candy Bar
Scan for coupons!

The Blue Island Park District is hosting a
Men's Soccer League
A Professionally Run Soccer League, Close to home!
BLUE ISLAND PARK DISTRICT
TEAM REGISTRATIONS IS TAKING PLACE NOW!
Details at:
12804 S. Highland Ave., Blue Island, IL
www.blueislandparks.org • 708-385-3304

VFW Johnson-Phelps Post 5220
We are looking for a few good Men and Woman who have served in the Armed Forces of America.
We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month, at 7:30p.m.
All Veterans of a Foreign War are Welcome!!!
Bring your Discharge Papers or DD-214. If you are still serving, bring your Military ID Card.
God Bless our Troops and Veterans
9414 South 52nd Ave., Oak Lawn, IL
www.VFW5220.com 708-423-5220

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City creates 50/50 tree planting program to help reforestation efforts in the wake of Emerald Ash Borer

The City of Oak Forest has created a 50/50 Parkway Tree Planting Program to facilitate replanting along city streets where ash trees were infested with Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). Over the past three years nearly 1,800 ash trees affected with EAB have been removed from the city's parkways as a matter of public safety.

This new program is based on a cooperative agreement where the homeowner selects a tree, obtains the no-cost planting permit from the city, and has a new parkway tree planted in front of his or her home. The homeowner submits the paid bill to the city and will be reimbursed up to half the cost to the maximum of $150 per tree. This program is made possible by a grant from the Oak Forest Social Services Corporation, which was created in 1980 to further the common good and general welfare of residents by bringing civic betterments and social improvements to the city.

Residents who participate in the program must fill out a 50/50 Parkway Tree Planting Permit. Annual funding for the program is limited and participation is on a first come, first served basis. Applications are available in the City Clerk's Office at City Hall, 15440 S. Central Avenue, or on the city's Web site at www.oak-forest.org.

Residents also may wish to take advantage of the city's Communitrees partnership with Spring Grove Nursery and iTrees.com, which allows them to purchase trees and arrange for planting online at www.itrees.com at a discounted price. For every 10 trees purchased through this program, the city will earn a free tree. The free trees will be planted in the community along city streets to help in our reforestation efforts.

For more information, visit www.oak-forest.org or stop by the City Clerk's Office for a brochure.

CNB Bank & Trust receives 4-Star rating from BauerFinancial

CNB Bank & Trust is pleased to announce that BauerFinancial, Inc., the nation's bank rating firm, proudly recognized CNB Bank & Trust as one of the strongest banks in Illinois, with a 4-Star/Excellent rating for fourth quarter, 2012.

"The 4-Star Rating indicates that CNB Bank & Trust is among the strongest banks in the nation and they are an excellent example of traditional, conservative banking. In this new era of 'back to basics' thinking, this is exactly what you should be looking for in a bank," commented Karen L. Dorway, President of BauerFinancial, Inc.

"Our team has worked very hard to receive this rating, and the effort has paid off by keeping our bank a strong financial institution," notes Andrew Tinberg, Oak Forest Regional President. "This is great news for our clients and shareholders and it illustrates that we continue to strive to meet our goals moving forward."

Food Tank event gathers leaders in the Chicago food movement

From obesity to malnutrition, the food system has many challenges. Food Tank: The Food Think Tank's "We Can Change the Food System Chicago!" [Wed. April 17 at 5:30CST. Piazza Bella Restaurant in Roscoe Village] will highlight some potential solutions to these issues and many others. Hosted by Food Tank co-founder Danielle Nierenberg, the event will feature more than a dozen Chicago-area food policy analysts, chefs, food activists, entrepreneurs, and others who have unique perspectives on food, nutrition, and agriculture issues.

The following speakers are confirmed for the event: Cortney Ahern (Board of Directors, Slow Food Chicago), Stephen Clark (Regional Community Outreach Coordinator, Chicago, Kitchen Community), Roland Calupe (Chef, Spiagi), Greg Christian (Founder, Beyond Green), Lisa Eakman (Executive Director, Global Agriculture and Good, Chicago Council on Global Affairs), Allison Forrer (National Volunteer Program Manager, Cooking Matters), Shayna Harris (Cocoa Sustainability Manager, Mars), Todd Jones (Founding Farmer, Every Last Morsel), Karen Lehman (Director, Fresh Tastes), Sheelah Muhammed (Co-Founder, Fresh Moves and food advocate), Claire Tinley (UNITE HERE Local 1), Alan Shannon (Director, Midwest Region Public Affairs, United States Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service), and Dan Schnitzer (Director of Sustainability and Operations, Academy for Global Citizenship).

Speakers will discuss the challenges they face in their work in the current food system and use their unique perspectives to discuss innovative solutions to these problems.

The event will be held at Piazza Bella Restaurant in Roscoe Village (2116 W Roscoe St., Chicago, IL) from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. CST on Wednesday, April 17. A limited number of tickets are still available http://foodtankchicago-efbevent.eventbrite.com/. They are $25 in advance and $35 at the door, and include food and beer/wine. Media passes available upon request.

Contact Danielle Nierenberg at (202) 590-1037 or danielle@foodtank.org for more information.

Tinley Park-Park District classes & events

Classes are not guaranteed to run. If you would like more information or to speak to someone about a specific class or event, please contact Matt Lihs, Marketing Manager, at (708)342-4254.

Wednesday, April 24. Pee Wee Mini Golf: Get your kids swinging early! Courses will be set up indoors and the kids can come back week after week to have more and more fun. Plastic clubs and balls will be used. This class is for ages 3 to 5 and will meet every Wednesday from 5 to 5:45 p.m. for 4 weeks. Register at the Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center.

Thursday, April 25. Ethnic Grocery Tour of Chicago: Discover the tastes, sounds and smells of the diverse areas of Chicago on this culinary tour. Our guided tour will highlight Swedish, Indian, Middle Eastern and Vietnamese markets and bakeries. Our knowledgeable guide will discuss different ingredients, their history, uses and legends and will lead the participants in tastings and help with purchasing items to bring home. A delicious lunch buffet is included, and there will also be time to shop surrounding specialty shops in the area. This trip requires several blocks of walking. Depart time is 9 a.m. from the Recreation Center and we'll arrive back at 4 p.m. Fee is $70 per person. Register at the Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center today!

Friday, April 26. Mother/Son Date Night: Celebrate Mother's Day with an evening of dancing, games and refreshments with your favorite date. This event is at the Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center from 7 to 9 p.m. Games and gifts for all! Please register at the Recreation Center before hand, as tickets will not be sold at the door and tickets are going quick! Fee is $16 per resident or $21 per non-resident. This event is for all ages.

Saturday, April 27. Mother/Daughter Springtime Updo's: Mom, bring your daughter to this amazing class and learn the skills in order to create a variety of simple updo's and braids. A variety of styles will be taught to accommodate different age groups. Each girl will choose from a sparkly collection of clips and glitters to polish off their new look. Goodie bags are included. This event will be held from 11 a.m. to noon at the Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center, and is $39 for Residents and $51 for Non-residents. For girls age 4 to 12 with an adult.

Friday, May 3. Make It For Mom: Mother's Day is coming soon, so plan a special surprise for mom! What fun to make and gift wrap a beautiful gift for your special mom. This class is for children age 5 to 10 and will be held from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center. Fee is $12 for Residents and $16 for Non-residents. Register at the Rec Center today, as limited spots are available and fill fast!

Saturday, May 4. Let's Go Fly A Kite: Join us for a fun-filled afternoon of kite flying at McCarthy Park. Families should bring their own kites ready to fly. A kite hospital will be on hand to handle kite emergencies. This event runs from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and is free! Hope to see you there!

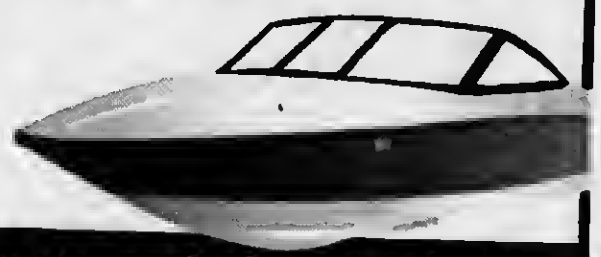
Arts Alive! Community Band 25th Anniversary Concert: Come tap your toes to the Tinley Park Arts Alive! Community Band - bringing musical memories to Chicago's southern suburbs for the past 25 years. The extensive concert schedule is directed by the talented Barbara Abarro. This concert will be held at Victor J. Andrew High School at 7 p.m. and admission is free. This is an all-ages show.

Saturday, May 11. Wallyball: What is Wallyball? If you've ever played volleyball, add a bouncier ball and four walls you can hit the ball off of and get ready for fun! We'll travel to Silver Lake Country Club and use their Wallyball courts to get some exercise and have a great time. This is a game that is great for all athletic levels, so don't be shy. Wear appropriate athletic clothes and shoes, and be ready to play! This event is for ages 11 to 15 and is $25 per person. We will depart from the Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center at 6:30 p.m. and return at 9:30 p.m. Register at the Rec Center today as spots are filling fast!

THE BOATING SEASON IS HERE!

Does your boat need some T.L.C.?

Get ready for those hot summer days on the water



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Earth Day event volunteers needed

The Midlothian Beautification Committee, in conjunction with the Midlothian Community Service Committee, is celebrating Earth Day on April 20, 2013 with phase two of the alley-way clean-up behind the CVS Pharmacy located at 147th and Pulaski from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Volunteers will meet at the gazebo on the Village Green (147th and Waverly) at 9:45 am and help clean-up trash that has collected over the winter months and plant hostas.

This event will go on rain or shine so volunteers need to dress prepared to get dirty. For more information or to volunteer for this event, please call 708-674-9079.

Helping hands needed for citywide Cleap-Up Day

Saturday, April 20th, 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon at Public Works Garage, 15722 S. Lorel Ave.

We invite you to come outside and volunteer with family, friends and neighbors for the community wide Clean-Up Day on Saturday, April 20th.. Lend your hands and join our efforts to make Oak Forest a cleaner, safer and healthier community by sprucing up neighborhoods and business districts for summer activities. Clean-Up Week involves many activities of people helping people working to maintain and improve our community's quality of life.

This is a great opportunity for residents, scout troops, school/church groups or students needing to fulfill community service hours to get involved in the community. Volunteers will meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Public Works garage at 15722 S. Lorel Avenue. Clean up activities run until Noon when volunteers return to Public Works for lunch.

To participate, call (708)535-4090 to register for the Spring Clean-Up event. Registration deadline is Tuesday, April 16th. If you have any questions please call Lina O'Meara at 535-4090 or email: lomeara@oak-forest.org.

Clean-Up Day kicks-off the City of Oak Forest's Clean-Up Week: April 22-26th.

Please volunteer your helping hands on Clean-Up Day and continue to make Oak Forest a wonderful place to live.

Village of Orland Park to hold Annual Spring Clean-Up Campaign

The Village of Orland Park Annual Spring Clean-Up Campaign in cooperation with Waste Management of the South Suburbs, will be held April 25, 26, and 27, 2013. Dumpsters will be placed at the Public Works Facility, located at 15655 South Ravinia Avenue , one block west of LaGrange Road.

Residents may dispose of normal household garbage beginning Thursday, April 25 and Friday, April 26, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. On Saturday, April 27, residents may access the dumpsters between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. All disposed materials must be placed inside of the dumpster and not along side the dumpster.

Household hazardous materials and construction debris are prohibited. These items include but are not limited to medical waste, paints and stains, fertilizers, pesticides, automotive parts, cleaners, pool chemicals, fluorescent tube bulbs, propane tanks, yard waste and electronics.

For more information, call the Public Works Department at 708/403-6350.

Palos Park Recreation Department wonderful world of sports

Come explore the wonderful world of sports using Nerf equipment over at the Palos Park Recreation Department. Nerf Sports begins Wednesday, April 24 to May 22, from 3:15 to 4 pm for ages 5 to 7. Each day will focus on the basics of a different sport. Young athletes will explore new games and develop a variety of coordination skills along with learning the importance of teamwork and good sportsmanship.

Palos Park Recreation Department begins Parent and Me: Nerf Sports on Wednesday, April 24 to May 22 from 2:30 to 3:15 pm for ages 3 to 4. This is like Nerf Sports. However parents get to explore the wonderful world of sports with their child using Nerf equipment. Each day will focus on the basics of a different sport. Young athletes will explore new games and develop a variety of coordination skills along with learning the importance of teamwork and good sportsmanship.

Tennis: Each child will learn the basic skills of tennis in a fun atmosphere at the Palos Park Recreation Department. Ankle Biter participants will be taught through drills to improve hand-eye coordination. Junior tennis players will be trained in the proper technique, basic scoring, and the rules of the game. Participants must bring their own tennis racquet and supply of drinking water. Tennis balls are supplied. Fridays, April 19 to May 24, Ankle Biter from 4 to 4:50 p.m. for ages 5 to 8. Junior from 5 to 5:50 p.m. for ages 9 to 12.

For more information, call 708 671-3760 or view the Summer Brochure 2013, online at Palospark.org. To register online go to www.activenet15.active.com/palospark or drop by the Palos Park Recreation Department located at 8901 West 123rd Street, Palos Park.

Earth Day spring cleaning at the Orland Grassland

April 20, 2013, 9:00 am to noon. Meet at Old 175th and 104th Avenue, on the west side of the site. Park aeross the street in the subdivision. Last year volunteers had a blast discovering old farm relies and hauling them out of the Grassland. Some things they found: a farm auger, a steel milk erate, an old Plymouth hubeap, old bottles, and a hot water heater. There's plenty more to haul out. We provide the tools and gloves. You provide a helping hand. Snaeks will be provided.

Go to www.orland-grassland.org or contact Pat Hayes at 708-220-9596.

SXU 2013 Spring Concert Schedule

Saint Xavier University's Department of Music will host a series of concerts during the spring 2013 semester.

All performances are free for SXU students, faculty, and staff with a current ID, and for prospeetive students. General admission is $6, and admission for senior citizens, visiting students, and members of the military is $5.

For more information, please contaet the Department of Music at (773) 298-3421 or visit www.sxu.edu, keyword: music.

SXU Guitar Ensemble and Jazz Combo Spring Concert, 7:30 p.m., Fri., April 26, McGuire Hall

The SXU Guitar Ensemhle will perform arrangements of folk dances from locations around the world, including Spain's Catalonia region, Jamaica, Mexico, and more. The SXU Jazz Combo will play blues and behop eompositions, standards from the Great American Songbook, and selections in trihute to the late Dave Brubeck.

Symphony Orchestra: London Everyday, 7:30 p.m., Thurs., May 2, Performanee Spaee

The orchestra's program includes chamber winds and strings, and von Suppe's Poet and Peasant overture, and it culminates by welcoming to the podium SXU Professor of Music Education Martha Morris in Eric Coates' "London Everyday Suite."

Jazz Ensemble, 7:30 p.m., Fri., May 3, McGuire Hall

The SXU Jazz Ensemble will present a varied program of big band literature ranging from swing era elassics to Latin jazz compositions to funk and roek/jazz fusion favorites.

Wind Ensemble: Dance! 7:30 p.m., Sat., May 4, Performanee Space

Join us for an ecleetic program featuring music for winds inspired hy dances from South America to Europe.

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Saturday, May 18th
between 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

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708-597-3333

Texas Hold-Em tournament for charity

Southwest Community Services, Inc. (SCS) will host a Texas 'Hold-Em' Tournament for Charity on Saturday, April 20 at 5:00 p.m. at Sam's Triple Crown, 9201 W. 159th Street in Orland Hills. The event will help support the programs and services that SCS provides to individuals with diverse disabilities and will allow participants to compete for thousands in prizes. The entrance fee of $125 provides 2,000 chips, appetizers and two free drinks; online registration before April 13, 2013 will be $100.

Registration will open at 5:00 p.m. Tournament will begin promptly at 6:00pm. Participants will also have the opportunity to meet Chicago Bears players Dan Hampton and Doug Buffone and test their skills against various Chicago personalities. In addition, the top two winners will receive Dan Hampton and Doug Buffone autographed jerseys. Players can reserve their spot by registering online at www.swcsinc.org or by calling 708-429-1260 x 1243. Spectators welcome for $25.00. Prize pool, $6,000 (based on #of.partieipants!)

Southwest Community Serviees, Inc., located in Tinley Park, IL, is a nonprofit organization that has been serving the south and southwest suburbs of Chicago since 1971. SCS provides services and programs that assist adults with developmental disabilities, mental illness, and physical disabilities achieve their highest degree of self-sufficiency through developmental training, soeial and recreational opportunities, psychosoeial rehabilitation and community support options, job development and community employment opportunities. SCS provides quality individualized therapy services, ineluding Suit Therapy, to children and adults with neuromuscular disorders through the STARS Center.

For more information about this event or for sponsorship opportunities please visit www.swcsinc.org or contact Carla Wall, Advancement and Events at (708) 429-1260 ext. 1243

Blue Island events

Rummage Sale

In the school's gymnasium, call 708-385-4450, ext. 7338 or email Karin Peterson at kpeterson@district130.org.

Wednesday, April 24 & Thursday, April 25 from 3 to 5 p.m. at Paul Revere Intermediate School, 12331 S. Gregory.

Sports & Fitness

Park District offerings

Senior Yoga classes begin April 17 and the men's Kick-it Social Soccer League Organization is coming to Blue Island Park District, Memorial Park Fieldhouse, 12804 S. Highland Ave., 708-385-3304

CSCVB Golf League

Open to all, come network and enjoy a nine-hole round of golf with the Chicago Southland Convention & Visitors Bureau. League starts May 1 and runs through August 28 (18 weeks). Wednesday, April 24, 5 p.m., introductory meeting. RSVP to Joel at 708-895-8200 at Lansing Country Club.

Spring Bonnet Tea

Wear your favorite hat and join us for a Victorian Tea, featuring a fine selection of savories, scones and pastries. For adults and young folks alike. Reservations are neeessary. Sunday, April 21, 3 p.m., $10/$20 at Ridge Historical Society, 10621 S. Seeley Ave., Chicago, 773-881-1675.

Sertoma Firefighter Cook Off

Help Blue Islanders Ken Dompeling and Joe DiNovo win the People's Choice Award again for their southern-style pulled pork sandwiehes! Saturday, April 27, 5 - 9 p.m., $10 at 115 Bourbon St. 3359 W. 115th St., Merionette Park.

Internet beginner class

The Chicago Ridge Public Library, 10400 S. Oxford, is hosting two sessions of Beginning Internet. Join us on, Saturday, April 20th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Learn to navigate the Web. Beginning Computers or mouse skills required. Registration and pre-paying the $5 fee must be done in person. Limited to 8 participants. Call the library at 423-7753 if you have any questions.

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Locations more than 10 miles from office require min. hrs. purchase.
Expires June 15, 2013. Offer Code AP16

Hickory Hills Park District Preschool registration

Spots going quickly!

The Hickory Hills Park District has openings in their Preschool classes:

5 days a week (M-F) $1540.00 for year
3 days a week (M/W/F) $860.00 for year
2 days a week (T/TH) $695.00 for year

Classes start in September and run thru May, 2014. Class times are 8:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. or 12:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.

The office is open Monday thru Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. for registration. In order to register, your child's birth certificate and immunization records are required.

For more information, please call 708- 598-1233 or visit www.hhparkdistrct.org

Family Health Fair returns to Village Sportsplex April 20

Free screenings and health information available.

The Village of Orland Park Recreation Department will hold its annual "Family Health Fair" on Saturday, April 20 from 9 a.m. until noon at the Village of Orland Park Sportsplex , 11351 West 159th Street. Topics will address the fitness needs of the entire family. The fair will offer free screenings and information on a variety of health issues including balance testing, blood pressure screenings, bone density testing," body mass index, flexibility testing, free acrobics classes, injury screening, nursing home information and trigger point massage. Information about a number of health issues will be available, including diabetes, and hearing information. Screenings for glucose levels recommend a twelve hour fast and preregistration. Cholesterol testing also requires preregistration for $24.99. Call or visit the Sportsplex to make reservations. Osco Pharmacy will be present with thyroid and prostate screenings for $24.99 each. Advanced registration is not required for the cholesterol screening; however, fasting is required. "An important part of staying healthy is to be screened for potentially dangerous conditions," said Deborah Geghen, Fitness Manager for the Village of Orland Park . Children are invited to try an obstacle course, sample healthy snacks, try on fire gear, have their faces painted, jump in the Dino Jump, and bring their bikes for free safety checks with Performance Bicycle. "This is a great opportunity to show children the benefits of staying healthy," Geghen noted. "A lot of health fairs tend to be geared towards adults, ours is for everyone," Geghen said. "Great fitness habits, healthy eating and lifestyle habits should start at a young age. We believe if the family can support each other and help each other to stay healthy, it makes for an easier and fulfilling life," she added. Raffles will be held for a number of prizes. For more information, contact the Village of Orland Park Sportsplex at 708-645-PLAY.

Principal Jim Muting hands junior Chris Doherty his school ring.

St. Laurence holds Ring Ceremony

Members of the junior class at St. Laurence High School recently received their school rings during a blessing and investiture ceremony held in the school's gym. Members of the class of 2014, along with their families and friends, were present for this special occasion. Faculty and staff of St. Laurence were also in attendance. Dr. Robert Smith (Class of '65), Principal at St. Patricia's, was the guest speaker. He also serves as a member of the St. Laurence Board of Directors.

Father Norm Trela, the school chaplain, blessed the rings, and then Principal Jim Muting (Class of '73) presented them to each student. The ceremony concluded with the Class of 2014 accepting their rings as symbols of loyalty and commitment to St. Laurence High School.

For more information on St. Laurence High School, please contact the Admissions Office at 708-458-6900, ext. 237 or 252.

Annual Rummage Sale

The Presbyterian Church in Orland Park, 13401 South Wolf Road, is hosting their Annual Rummage Sale, Saturday, April 20th from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Come and look for antiques, furniture, clothes, household items, sporting goods, jewelry, and more! Free admission.

Call 708-448-8142 for more information or questions.

Green activities & electronic waste collection at Moraine Valley for Earth Week

It's time again to think "green" as Earth Week arrives the week of April 22 at Moraine Valley Community College.

Watch segments from the documentary "Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide" followed by a panel discussion on Tuesday, April 23, 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m. in Building M, Moraine Room 1. This video addresses issues such as sex trafficking, sustainability, economic empowerment, education, health care, and other gender-related issues.

"Toxic Culture: How Materialistic Society Makes Us Ill" is a recorded presentation by Dr. Gabor Maté. This showing will be followed by a panel discussion led by Michelle Zurawski, associate professor of Biology, and Dr. Amy Williamson, associate professor of Psychology, on Thursday, April 25, 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m. in Building M, Moraine Room 1.

Trade your goods with others at the Green Club Swap Meet on Thursday, April 25, 2 to 4 p.m. in Building U, U111. Bring your gently used but unwanted items and swap them out for other items. Objects include, but are not limited to, books, clothes, household items, or weights. Perishables, weapons and live animals are not welcome.

Explore the foliage on campus at a tree walk on Friday, April 26, from 11 a.m. to noon or noon to 1 p.m. Meet at the clock tower of Building S. Moraine Valley has been designated a Tree Campus USA by the Arbor Day Foundation for the last three years.

Bring electronic waste to the Community E-waste Recycling Collection on Saturday, April 27, 9 a.m.-noon in the Building T parking lot. Drop off unwanted (broken or not) electronics, telephones radios, computers, TVs, batteries, and other things that use or hold energy. Large appliances such as washing machines or refrigerators are not accepted. Acme Scrap is collecting and recycling the items.

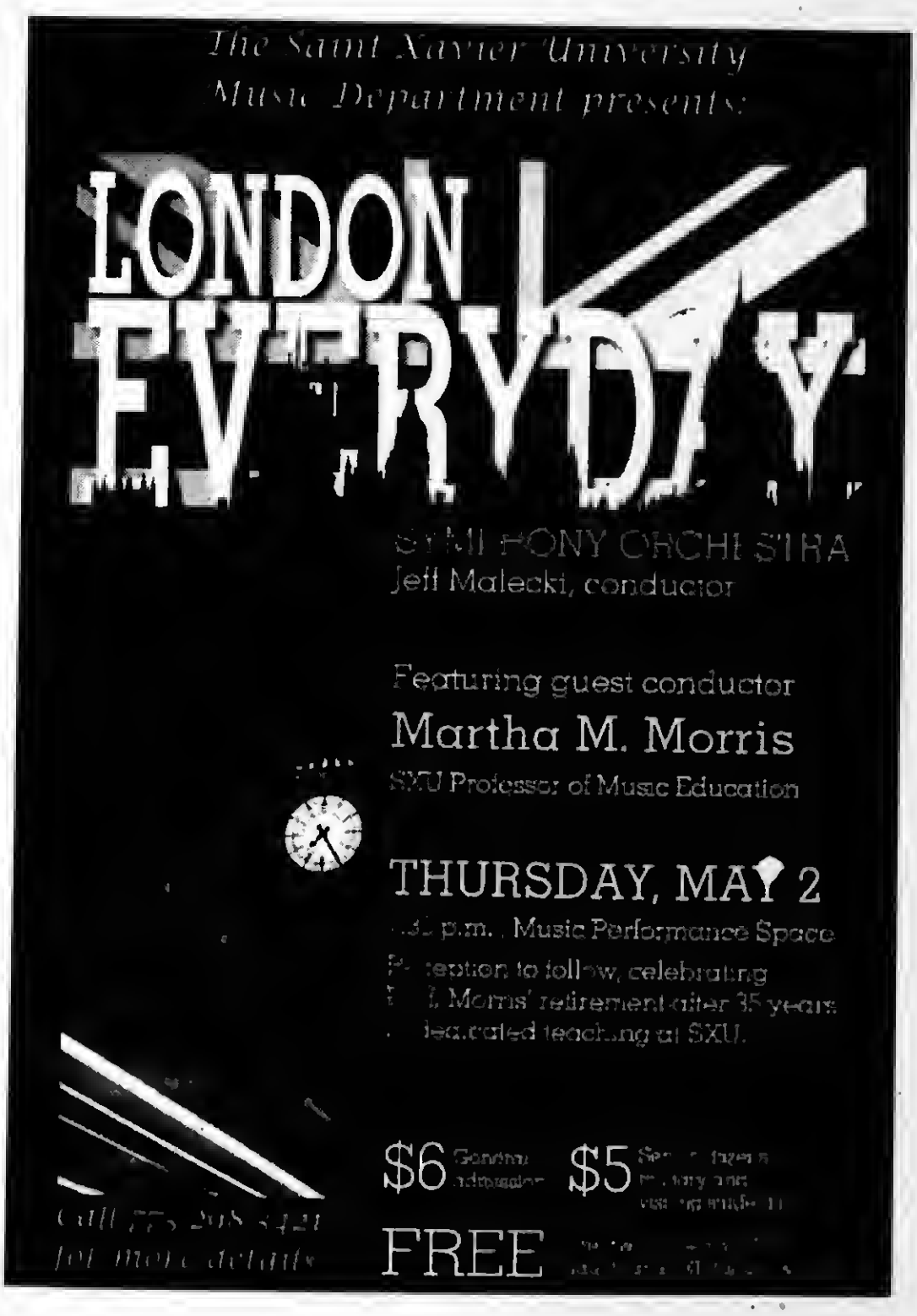
For additional information, contact Stephenie Presseller, sustainability manager, at (708) 974-5412 or email pressellers@morainevalley.edu.

Attention Schools & Academys, Catering & Party Stores: Graduation advertising starting in our May 7th issue. Call Linda at 708-425-1910.

District 130 School in Blue Island hosting Spring Rummage Sale

Paul Revere Intermediate School, located at 12331 S. Gregory in Blue Island, will host a Rummage Sale on Wednesday, April 24 and Thursday, April 25 from 3 pm to 5 pm in the school's gymnasium. Please enter through the gym doors on 123rd Place.

For further information, please call 708-385-4450, ext. 7338 or email Karin Peterson at kpeterson@district130.org.



The Storefront Theater presents A Permanent Image

This is not just the usual dysfunctional family play, mainly because the actors are so good you can't help but staying alert ns to what is heing said. The dialogue is great but the subjeet matter may he offensive to pro life groups. The play runs through Sunday. May 5, 2013. Curtain Times: Thursday. Fridays & Saturdays at 7:30 pm; Sundays at 2 pm. Tickets are $15; $12 students, seniors & industry.

Tickets for A PERMANENT IMAGE are availahle at livewirechicago.brownpapertickets.com or hy calling (312) 533-4666. The Storefront Theater is located at 66 E. Randolph in Chicago.

Auditorium Theatre presents Joffrey Ballet Othello

Joffrey Ballet Othello features original chorcography by Lar Luhovitch, original music by Elliot Goldenthal, set design hy George Tsypin, costumes by Ann Hould-Ward, lighting design by Pat Collins and digital projections hy Wendall K. Harrington.

Othello, created in 1997, received its Joffrey and Chicago premiere in 2009. This production represents the last time the Joffrey will perform the work before it's retired from active repertory.

The story revolves around Othello, a general serving the state of Venice, who weds the young nohlewoman Desdemona, a controversial union among high society hecause of Desdemona's Catholic heritage and Othello's Islamic faith.

At their wedding, Othello presents Desdemona with a handkerchief which has been passed down through his family since the time of Egyptian queens, said to ensure its bearer with eternal love and fidelity. Iago, a senior ensign under Othello who is enraged when he's passed over for promotion in favor of the young Cassio, quietly plots vengeance against Othello. Iago spins a web of deceit, with the handkerchief at its center, which ensnares Othello with rage and jealousy.

Othello starts April 24th through May 5. Tickets are $31 to $152 on line or box office

Theatre Wit presents Maria/ Stuart

It was a fun birthday until supernatural forces conspire to bring everyone to the brink of confronting the past they've kept so carefully buried.

Theater Wit, 1229 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago Opened Friday, April 5 at 7:30 pm. and runs until Sunday, May 5, 2013. Curtain Times: Thurs. thru Saturdays at 7:30 pm; Sundays at 3 pm /

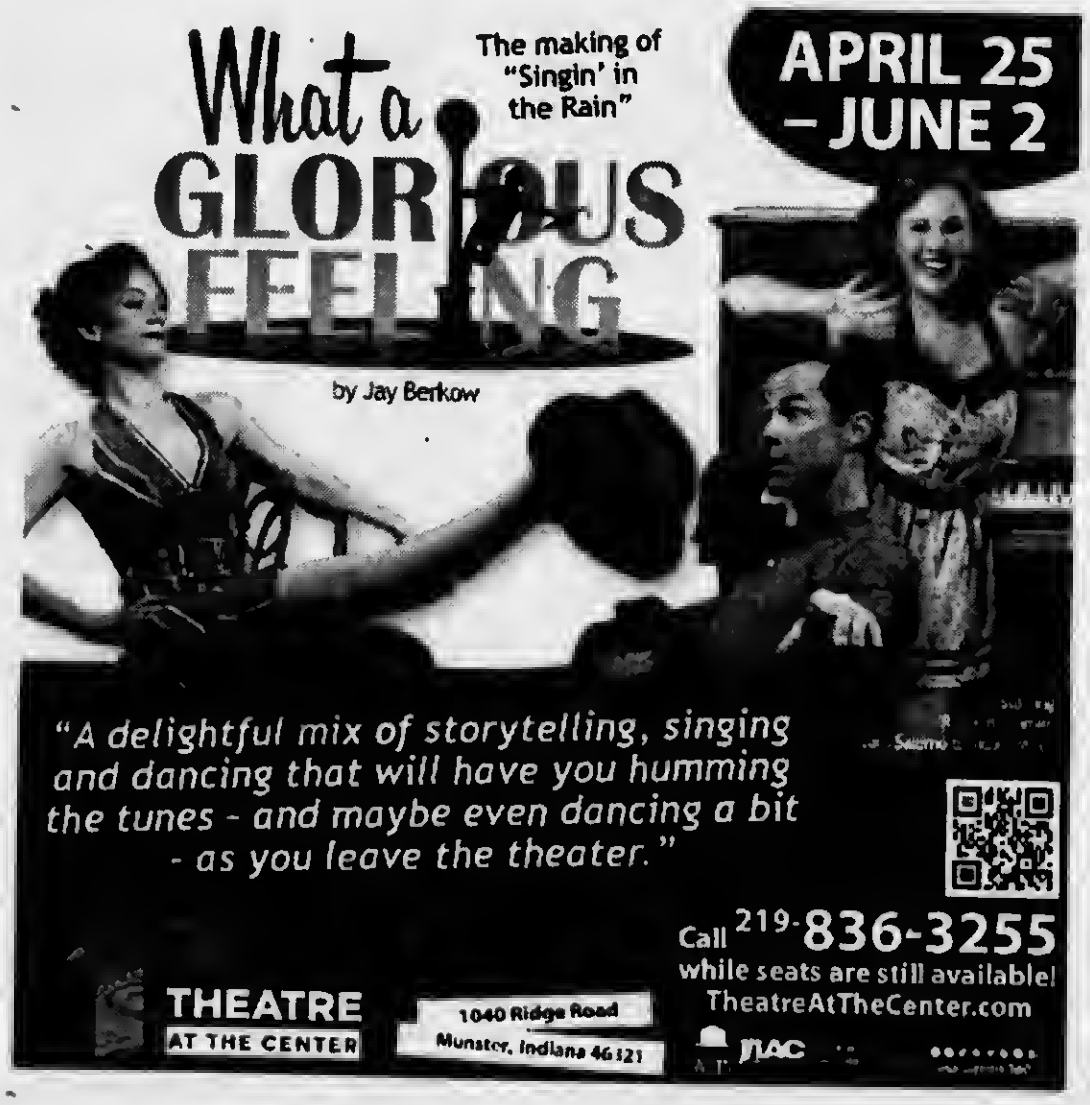
Twohundredfiftysix colors one time only

This film was very well done and has all the elcments that life hrings to us. As Eric Fleischauer stated, "we took the animation from the internet and edited it and used it for our project." As a film major, I crcdited Eric Fleischauer and Jason Lazarus as geniuses. This was very well done. It is 72 minutes long and great for film major and enthusiasts.

This film plays only Thursday, April 18, as part of the "Conversations at the Edge" series.

Plcase contact Amy Beste (abeste@saic.edu) or Chris (csanew@saic.edu) for further information.

Gene Siskel Film Center of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago 164 N. State St. Chicago, IL 60601 312-846-2600 (main number) 312-846-2800 (movie hotline kdurham@saic.edu Or www.siskelfilmcenter.org



Service Directory

Beauty School

John Amico
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Oak Forest, IL
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1 COLOR TOUCH UP	$15	HIGHLIGHTS	$25
VIRGIN COLOR	$25	PERMS	$27
HAIRCUTS MEN/KIDS	$5	WOMAN CUT	$8

*Offer valid 5-15-13. All work done by students. Doesn't apply to corrective color. Prices are for short hair. Medium to Long hair slightly more. Offer good with ad.

Crafters Corner

To advertise in Crafters Corner, or Crafters Wanted, call Linda for more information at 708-425-1910.

Vendor's Wanted
"Memories to Go"
Village Wide
Garage Sale
May 11
89th & Kedzie
Evergreen Park
Inside $50
Outside $35
708-422-8776

Rummage Sales

RUMMAGE SALE
HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN
87th & Sayre, Burbank
May 3, Fri, 9 am - 3 pm
May 4, Sat 9 am - Noon
Sat. Bag Day $ 3.50

Rummage Sale, Garage Sales, Flea Markets, rates start at $20, in 4 newspapers and online, call Linda 708-425-1910 for details

Rummage Sale
Morgan Park Methodist Church
Longwood Dr. at 110th Pl.
Fri-Sat. Apr. 26 & 27
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
773-238-2600
Clothing, jewelry, household, misc. goodies.
Enter from parking lot entrance.

RUMMAGE SALE
FREE ADMISSION
Saturday, April 20
7:30 am to 3:30 pm
The Presbyterian Church
in Orland Park
13401 S. Wolf Rd • 708-448-8142
Household Items • Clothes
Toys • Sporting Goods
Furniture • Antiques
Holiday Decorations
Much Much More!

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The thrill of the grill

by David Venable

(NAPSA)-Here are four tips every grill owner should follow:

1. Never flatten your burgers; you'll lose the juices that keep them flavorful.

2. Grilled red meats need to rest for at least five minutes after cooking. Food covers will protect the meat, as well as your entire barbecue-from bugs, pets and other uninvited guests.

3. Never use a fork to flip your food. You want to preserve those juices and a fork pierces the outside. I recommend tongs for your everyday fare but for ribs, porterhouses, pizzas and big cuts of meat, try Mr. Bar-B-Q Stainless Steel Oversized Spatula from QVC. There'll be practically nothing you can't move.

4. While you can cook your entire meal on your grill, everything from steak and mushrooms to broccoli and fries-smaller foods tend to disappear down the grates unless you have skewers or, better yet, a grill basket. I like the Technique Stainless Steel BBQ Chef's Pan with Grill Basket

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Cookbook author David Venable says be sure to have the right tools for the job when you grill.

Lid that's made of tightly woven mesh, so you can roast seeds or even pop popcorn.

• QVC Program Host David Venable is the author of the cookbook "In the Kitchen with David: Comfort Foods That Take You Home." He gives 3.5 million weekly viewers an inside look at his "kitchen" as the host of QVC's most popular cooking show: "In the Kitchen with David."

Protect your house and family

(NAPSA)-Protect your biggest investments: your family and your home. A few easy electrical safety steps can help ensure that your home continues to be a safe haven for your

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A few easy electrical safety steps can help ensure that your home continues to be a safe haven for your family.

family. The Electrical Safety Foundation International recommends the following tips to help protect your home and family from electrical hazards and fires:

• Regularly check all cords, outlets, switches and appliances for signs of damage or wear.

• Use extension cords only temporarily.

• Be sure that outlets are not overloaded with too many devices. They can overheat and start a fire.

• Look and listen for warning signs of an electrical problem such as outlets and switches that are warm, or make crackling, sizzling or buzzing sounds.

• Always replace fuses or circuit breakers with the correct size and amperage. And make sure all circuits are labeled correctly.

• Consider having your breakers upgraded to state-of-the-art AFCI circuit breakers. Keep the electrical panel accessible so you can quickly shut off power in an emergency.

• Install smoke alarms on every level of your home. Place alarms inside each bedroom and outside each sleeping area. Test them once a month, change the batteries at least once a year, and replace the alarm itself every 10 years.

For more electrical safety tips, visit www.esfi.org.

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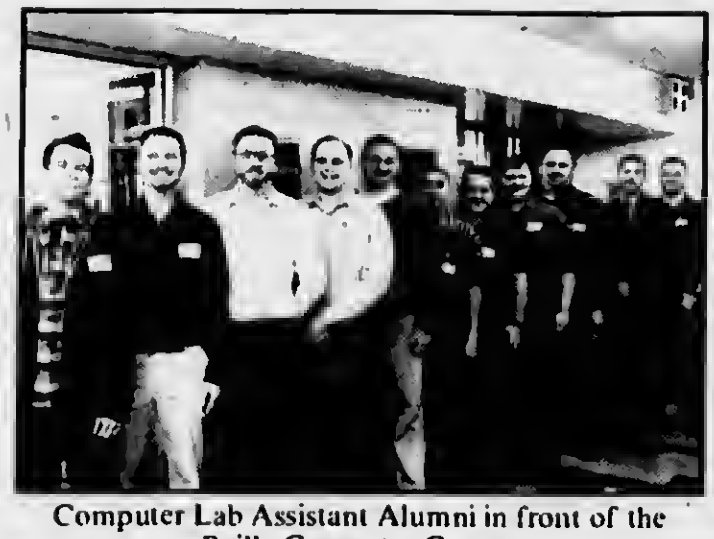
SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 39 | Number 21 | May 7, 2013

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn



Computer Lab Assistant Alumni in front of the Reilly Computer Center.

St. Laurence Computer Lab Assistant Program holds 30th anniversary

The Computer Lab Assistant Program held its 30th Anniversary Celebration which included a reception in the Reilly Computer Center, a formal presentation in the Leadership Center, and a luncheon in the Library. Mike Hye '13 acted as a master of ceremonies for the day and Mr. Bill McLean was the keynote speaker. Mr. McLean established the program in the fall of 1983 and continues to direct the program today.

Seventy-one Computer Lab Assistant Alumni joined twenty-three current Senior Computer Lab Assistants to commemorate this milestone. They shared stories and experiences and made some new memories. Those in attendance include Tom Drez '84, Rich Niedziela '84, Carl Anderson '86, Darius Vaskelis '87, Tom Hedgecoth '88, Eric Schramm '89, Dave Condon '93, Dean Paron '95, Tony Swann '96, John Diamond '99, Jim Flanagan '01, Tony Cassello '02, Mike Durkin '03, Jeff Mikula '04, Casey Ksiazek '06, Kevin O'Leary '07, Eric Senase '08, Dan Summers '09, and Nick Wozniak '11.

In addition, special guests included St. Laurence Principal Joe Martinez '99, Vice President Mark Scott, Principal Jim Muting'73, and Chaplain Fr. Norm Trela. A total of one hundred and three individuals were present and participated in the event. St. Laurence High School wishes to offer congratulations to all past and present Computer Lab Assistants for thirty years of Service. Leadership, and Commitment to our faith community.

Hickory Hills gears up for severe weather

by Jan Glaz

Clerk D'Lorah Catizone reported the other week at the Hickory Hills City Council Meeting that she had attended a two day ComEd Joint Operating Center Meeting in Palos Heights in regards to a program from ComEd to enhance communication and coordination during a severe weather event. The ComEd center will open when 20 percent of customers are without power for three hours within a selected area, which includes Crestwood and several other communities. The program also explained the importance of the Area Plan Restoration List (APRL), a list the city provides to ComEd to report the areas within the city that must have power restored first.

ComEd has made numerous enhancements to improve communications including: A two-way text messaging system that allows customers to report their outages to ComEd by text and enables the utility to text restoration information back to customers; A regional mobile command center, equipped with the latest communications, satellite and video conferencing technology; expanded GPS deployment across the utility's mobile dispatch fleet to strengthen coordination of resources; and a social energy application for Facebook, designed to provide customers with a better sense of their energy usage. Catizone will attend a statewide exercise on June 13th at Palos Heights.

The City Council approved an Ordinance amending the building code pertaining to prohihiting carports. Alderman Szeszycki question the details surrounding the amendment as there are carports existing in the city and was informed by Alderman McHugh that the amendment prohibits the building of a carport. Carports are attached to a home and no permits will be issued to construct one. However, building a storage facility with sides and a foundation is supported.

Mayor Dave Heilmann presides over his final board meeting

by Matt Mayer

Mayor Dave Heilmann thanked village employees, fellow board members and residents at last months Oak Lawn Board of Trustees meeting. This was his last official board meeting after being defeated by Sandra Bury in the April 9 consolidated election. Heilmann said, "Despite the worst of disagreements you put your names on a ballot and left your home and you went up here and you served". He also spoke about the steep price of being elected to public office and losing friends when he had to turn down ethical breaches. "It wasn't the possibility of losing an election that kept me up at night, it was the mayoral campaign", said Heilmann.

Other highlights: The board honored Sarah Dynia for her volunteer service. She won the 2013 Governors Volunteer Service Award for her Stuff Love which is a non profit program that makes pillows for anyone in need primarily for hospitalized patients, the elderly and the homeless. She began the program three years ago and since then, the program expanded and has gone nationwide. The board also honored the winners of the Green Scene contest and the Oak Lawn High School Drama Team for achieving the 2013 IHSA State Drama Championship.

Mayor-elect Sandy Bury will receive the oath of office at the May 14 Board of Trustees meeting along with Village Clerk Jane Quinlan and Alex Olejniczak for their third term in office as well as newly elected Trustees, Tim Desmond (D-1); Terry Vorderer (D-4) and Mike Carberry (D-6).

Justice employs life saving Yellow Dot Program

by Jan Glaz

Trustee Melanie Kuban announced the arrival of the My Yellow Dot Program in the Village of Justice at the President and Board of Trustees Meeting. The National My Yellow Dot program is designed to provide first responders the information critical to your treatment, if you are incoherent or unresponsive following an automobile accident or medical emergency. The critical "Golden Hour" following an incident is where essential medical information is required for appropriate and safe treatment. The information can help save you or your loved ones life. Kuban explained details regarding the program. A Yellow Dot Sticker is displayed on your automobile's rear window; it directs first responders to look for the My Yellow Dot Medical Information Sheet located in your glove box. Yellow Dot is a free program from the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) and the Justice Police Department is the distribution center for Yellow Dot. Residents can pick up a brochure and as many Yellow Dot kits as needed at the Police Department. The kit contains a personal information card and a Yellow Dot decal. Complete one card for each person who regularly occupies the vehicle. Information is also available on the Village website.

Prior to the commencement of the regular meeting, winners of the annual vehicle sticker contest received awards, congratulations, a round of applause and refreshments. Attending the awards were guests from School District 109: Dr. Jon Nebor, Superintendent, Dr. Blair Nuccio, Assistant Superintendent, distinguished board members and teachers and Orley Betcher, President of the Chamber of Commerce. Starting May 1st, and through the year, the Vehicle Sticker will be placed on close to 10,000 vehicles in the Village of Justice representing Safe Schools – Safe Students as a message for all. The third place winner is Miss Jeviny Sanchez, the second place is: Nadeen Mahmoud; first place winner is Miss Emily Lizak. Emily's design has been placed on a plaque to remind her of her winning design.

Noteworthy: New business licenses met with board approval before the meeting adjourned. Trustee Ed Rusch introduced motions for the Business License of Sweet House Bakery at 8405 S. Roberts Road and New 2 U Resale at 8646 S. Roberts Road, Suite 107. "In the last two years," said Trustee Rusch, "over 95 new businesses have located in the Village of Justice... the trend is if the business is not successful for whatever reason there is always someone willing to fill the void. The result is a good track record and there are not a lot of vacancies available; a good message to potential business owners."

Village View

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 9 | May 7, 2013

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Orland Officials nay project bid

by Jan Glaz

A Project Bid was approved for rejection at the Orland Park Board of Trustees Meeting last month. The Franklin Loebe Recreation Center (FLC) renovation and addition project was planned for construction this summer. The budgeted amount for this project is $420,000.00 which must also include the relocation of the underground telephone and data lines that serve this campus and Village facilities to the south. Bids for the renovation project were received on March 18, 2013 at 11:00 a.m. in the Village Clerk's Office. A review of the bid submittals was conducted both by staff and Studio GC. Feedback from at least one of the bidders indicated that the cost of the project was higher than expected due to the labor intensive work of constructing the exterior details that are found on the facilities on this campus. The architect will consider revisions to the design for cost saving opportunities. The project was scheduled when preschool is on the summer break but the overground project will he rebid later this year with construction rescheduled to summer 2014.

Meeting news before adjournment: As part of the effort to launch an organization-wide performance management program for the village it is reported that a system will need to he developed to measure performance. Performance measurement is the regular measurement and analysis of the results, outcomes, and efficiency of services or programs and is recognized by public administration and finance professionals. Officials agreed to approve participating in the International City/County Management Association Center for Performance Measurement (CPM) as they offer a comprehensive program with the tools to collect and report performance and assist local governments in establishing a performance measurement system along with information to improve local services. The annual subscription fee for this program is $5,550 per year and a one-time fee of $4,000 for on-site training fee in the first year. The motion carried to enroll in the International City/County Management Association's Center for Performance Measurement and receiving on-site training in an amount not to exceed $9,550.

Oak Forest revises ordinance for vehicle license stickers

by Jan Glaz

Two Technical Amendments were approved at the City of Oak Forest Board of Trustees Meeting held recently, regarding Senior Citizens. Currently seniors are offered three (3) free vehicle stickers per household. City Clerk Scott Burkhardt did a quick telephone audit and discovered that most municipalities charge a minimal cost for stickers to those 65 years of age or older. Burkhardt discussed this with members of the Senior Commission and then suggested to reduce the number from three free stickers to two (2) free stickers. Also, the front office staff had recommended that the number of transfers per household be defined and limited to two (2) transfers in any current licensing period due to issues related to multiple transfers, and citizens unable to provide the old sticker which was not taken off a vehicle when sold. Limiting the number of transfers per household addressed this issue. Fee transfer to another vehicle during the year is $2.00 with a maximum of two per year per household.

A motion introduced by Clerk Burkhardt to approve an Agreement with the Oak Fest for 2013 carried a positive vote. Burkhardt explained that this year Oak Fest will host a 5 day event beginning on July 3rd and ending with the fireworks and gala on July 7th. Mayor Kuspa announced the absence of the circus this year, due to a loss of available property. The Oak Fest opening time is 11:00 a.m., but cars will begin arriving at the grounds around 8:00 a.m., festivities will conclude at 11:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 7th.

Final approvals before the meeting adjourned: Approval of the 2013 Road Program. The low bidder was Iroquois Paving Corporation of Watseka, Illinois at $766,388.62, which is 27.4% below the engineer's estimate. Lawn mowing services also passed with the low bidder Carefree Lawn Maintenance, Incorporated of Lockport, Illinois for an amount not to exceed $77,173.00 in 2013. Trustees recognized a bid by DN Tanks of Wakefield, Massachusetts, to repair Oak Forest's two pre- stressed concrete reservoir tanks at a cost of $323,500.00. Marathon Oil received an approval supporting a Class 8 Tax Incentive for commercial property at 15301 South Harlem Avenue. Development Director Adam Dotson noted that there are only 5 townships who can offer a Class 8 Tax Incentive.

Tinley Park Farmers Market

Come and visit our Farmers Market every Saturday, from June through Octoher, 7:00 am - Noon. Zabrocki Plaza near the Metra Train Station in Downtown Tinley at 174th and Oak Park Avenue, Tinley Park. The Farmers' Market every week for the best selection of fruits, vegetables and fresh flowers and much more.

Tinley Park joins litigation against online travel companies

by Jan Glaz

Recently at the Village of Tinley Park Board of Trustees Meeting officials voted to adopt a Resolution Authorizing Entering into an Agreement with the Robert K. Finnell, Bird Law Group, P.C., the Crongeyer Law Firm, P.C., the Clifford Law Offices and the Law Firm of Peterson, Johnson & Murray, Chicago, LLC to participate in litigation against online travel companies in an effort to recoup potential hotel tax revenue. Trustee Seaman offered details explaining that the agreement would pursue action against online travel companies that collect sales tax on rooms purchased through their service but are either not remitted to local governments or calculated and paid on a room rate other then what they were sold for. Similar actions have successfully taken place throughout the country. This would come at no expense and no risk to the Village. Furthermore, it would not have a negative impact on local hotel operators. Other regional communities including Warrenville, Orland Park, Burr Ridge, Aurora and Oak Lawn have already entered into this agreement. The Village Attorney has reviewed the agreement and has no objections.

A motion carried prior to the commencement of the meeting to open a Public Hearing on the proposed 2014 fiscal year budget which has been available for public inspection at the Village Clerk's office since Monday, April 8th. The current budget year ending April 30, 2013, is expected to close with General Fund revenues exceeding expenses by approximately $3.2 million. The fiscal 2014 budget proposes General Fund expenditures of $43,442,713.00 and anticipates revenues of $43.8 million, representing slightly more than a five percent increase in expenditures over last year's budget and is in part due to health insurance projections and the implementation of the Affirmative Care Act. The total fiscal 2014 expenditure budget including all activities, Capital Improvement Fund and water and sewer maintenance, is $100.4 million. There were no comments from the public at the hearing. The Village Board adopted the budget on April 23. Mayor Edward Zabrocki extended his thanks to all those who worked together to make the process of the budget. "This is probably the smoothest budget operation we've been through." said President Zabrocki.

Village View

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SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 14 | Number 9 | May 7, 2013

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Mayor Randy Keller presides over his final board meeting

by Matt Mayer

Mayor Randy Keller at the April 16 Worth Board of Trustees meeting thanked trustees, department heads and Finance Director Dwayne Fox for their service and said he enjoyed serving Worth for the past 10 years. Keller served as trustee from 2003 to 2005 and two terms as mayor. This was his last official board meeting after being defeated by sitting Trustee Mary Werner in the April 9 consolidated election.

"I am very proud of what was accomplished". I will miss working with all of you. One thing I have learned is that issues will never go away until they are resolved. You must make the right decisions, not just the popular ones", said Keller.

Other highlights: Trustee Colleen Mc Elroy said that the Palos Heights Community channel 4 may expand its coverage and feature business on their "Meet The Merchant" program. The community channel would also televise the village board meetings. Mc Elroy supplied the community channel with some 151 businesses for the Meet the Merchant program. The channel is also slated to cover village events. The community channel, which is administered by the City of Palos Heights, also covers Palos Hills and Hickory Hills.

Mayor-elect Mary Werner will received the oath of office at the May 7 Board of Trustees meeting along with incumbent Village Clerk Bonnie Price and Trustees Colleen Mc Elroy, Rich Dziedzic and newly elected Tedd Muersch Jr.

Worth Farmers and Flea Market opening soon

Find treasures at our monthly market!

Season produce, baked goods and household items and more will be available for your purchase. Enjoy this fun family event.

Visit www.villageofworth.com for information or for a vendor application or call Rich at 708-508-4601, Kevin at 708-715-4490 or Colleen at 708-218-0238. Vendors are still being accepted.

The market dates are as followed: May 19th, June 16th with special car show, July 21, August 18, Spetember 15 & October 20th. Market opens at 8:00 am until 3:00 pm.

The market is located at 110th & Depot Road, behind the Village Hall. We hope to see you there!

Palos Heights approves a special use permit

by Matt Mayer

The Palos Heights City Council at a recent city council meeting approved a request from the planning and zoning board to authorize city attorney Tom Brown to draft an ordinance for a special use permit for the final planned unit development (PUD) for a mixed use development at the former Ben Franklin Store at 12306-20 S. Harlem Avenue and 12312 S. 72nd Court. A motion to waive the rules to adopt the ordinance for a special use permit for the final planned unit development at the construction site was also approved.

Based upon the review by Morris Engineering and the recommendation of the Roads and Construction Committee, the city council approved a motion to award the Harlem Avenue Landscaping Project and the 2013 Roads Resurfacing Project to the lowest qualified bidder.

The Farmers Market will begin Wednesday May 8 from 7 a.m to 1 p.m. at 12217 S. Harlem Avenue. A list of vendors may be obtained by visiting the city website at www.palosheights.org. The Palos Heights Women's Club Annual Flower sale will be held on Saturday May 18 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Flowers are from Woldhuis Farms Sunrise Greenhouse. Break for the Lake Trail 5K will be held on May 19, 8 a.m at 7402 Lake Katherine Drive.. Participants may register online at www.racetime.info.

Whats happening at Palos Park Recreation

Make sure to stop by and see what the Village of Palos Park has going on in its Senior Club! All Palos Park residents over the age of 60 are invited to join this club. Your day begins with lunch and socializing with friends. Topics appealing to the group will be covered along with entertainment at some meetings. The day ends with a raffle. On Monday, May 13, Ed Bara, American History Educator will discuss the Columbian Exposition, which was held to celebrate the anniversary of Columbus' discovery of America. This event turned out to be one of the most important moments in the history of Chicago. Professor Bara will take us back to that time through words and pictures. Once you hear the story you can join us on a trip to the site of the Columbian Exposition. The Devil in the White City trip is set for June 5. Register at the Recreation Center today. To reserve your spot for the meeting call Marie Arrigoni at 708-480-4103.

Come on out and join other men interested in the fast-paced game of basketball. Exercise while having friendly competition over at the Palos Park Recreation basketball court. Each week teams will be formed and players will be rotated. Our Men's Basketball is on Thursdays through May 23 from 8-10 p.m. for ages 21 and up. You must register in advance in order to play. For more information, call 708 671-3760 or view our Summer Brochure 2013, online at Palospark.org. To register online go to www.activenet15.active.com/palospark or drop by the Palos Park Recreation Department located at 8901 West 123rd Street, Palos Park.

Village of Worth clean up

The Village of Worth is hosting a clean up of the Lucas Berg Nature Preserve. Saturday, May 11th 9am to noon at 7600 w 111th Street. Volunteers under age 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Please call the Village of Worth for details at 708 448 1181. Please dress for the weather, this is a rain or shine event!

Village of Worth is hosting a planting day on Saturday, May 18th at 9am. Please meet with your shovels and gloves at 7112 W. 11th St., Worth, Il.

Moraine Valley hosting After Hours Open House

Business and community leaders are invited to a free After Hours Open House at Moraine Valley Community College's Moraine Business and Conference Center on Tuesday, May 21, from 4 to 7 p.m. Building M is on campus, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills.

The Moraine Business and Conference Center is an ideal venue for conferences, meetings, banquets, workshops, seminars, and other types of meetings. Incentives will be offered to attendees who book future events.

During the open house, guests can sample food and beverage options the center offers and tour the facility, which boasts 12,000 square feet of meeting space, an executive board room and breakout rooms, on-site catering, Wi-Fi, computer labs and a business support center, and ample parking.

Sign up to attend at mbecopenhouse.eventbrite.com. For more information, contact Corporate, Community and Continuing Education at (708) 974-5690 or ccce@morainevalley.edu.

Village View

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B-MAC EDITION

Volume 7 | Number 9 | May 7, 2013

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Midlothian Mayor Village Lawyer and Water Tower are on the move

by Jan Glaz

Mayor Terrence Stephens suggested a smooth transition into office for the newly elected Mayor Sharon Rybak recently at the Village of Midlothian Board of Trustees Meeting. Stephens will attend a series of conferences with Rybak as soon as her schedule permits to share pertinent information regarding all Village departments. During the course of the meeting Stephens affirmed that the anticipated Midlothian Water Tower Project is on track considering the fact that all that needs to happen is in process and moving forward. However, Daniel McGrath, the current Village Lawyer, commented that there is a trust and water main location problem to be resolved in relation to locating the water tower. Before continuing with the meeting, Mayor Stephens bid farewell to Daniel McGrath; as he is moving on.

A Public Hearing was conducted at the Board of Trustees meeting in regards to the Village staying in compliance with Village Ordinances and the Village Storm Water Plan. The hearing for the National Pollution Discharge and Elimination system Phase II (NPDES) permit Process Regarding Quality of Storm Water before the water reaches lakes and rivers drew zero public comments and the Chair entertained a motion to close the hearing.

Mayor Stephens introduced a proclamation declaring the new Village Chambers be named the Michael T. Woike Memorial Hall and the Board of Trustees concurred. Stephens relayed that there will be a dedication on Sunday May 5th with an unveiling of a plaque dated April 25th, in regards to the action of the Board.

Noteworthy Approvals: The Board of Trustees agreed to pay invoices for J & L Electronic Service in the amounts of $3,820.61 and $9,456.19; Officer John Pace will attend the Northwestern University Center for a Public Safety Vehicle Dynamics Course to be held at the Tinley Park Police Department at a cost of $775.00; also approved. Phase II of the Boot Lock Program to give notice to debtors in the newspaper and an Authorization to release funds of $900.00 specifically raised for the purchase of trees for the Village Gazebo.

Crestwood welcomes the Holiday Inn Express Hotel

by Jan Glaz

Officials approved a motion at the Village of Crestwood Board of Trustees Meeting last month to direct the Village Attorney to prepare a Special Use Ordinance for the Holiday Inn Express to permit a hotel, to be located at 13330 Cicero Avenue, formerly the Hampton Inn. Mayor Robert Stranczek announced that the ordinance is required because a hotel is not specifically provided for in the commercial zoning district. The Holiday Inn Express is scheduled to open after June 11th with 123 rooms and 8 suites on 4 floors and will introduce a rewards plan for all guests.

A reminder to Crestwood residents. May 18th is the day to dispose of all household items large or small with the exception of building materials such as lumber, drywall or paneling. All items should be placed out curb side Friday May 17th. after 5 p.m., pickup is early morning on Saturday the 18th. If you are physically unable and need assistance please contact the Village Hall at 708-371-4800 prior to the day. The Village of Crestwood also wants to remind pet owners not to forget your dog licenses. The fee is only $3.00 and must be accompanied by certification from a veterinarian stating your pet is up to date with its rabies shot. If your dog bites someone, a police report could be filed and your dog will be impounded if not currently vaccinated. The Village code only permits a maximum of three pets per household.

Before the meeting adjourned the Board of Trustees passed a Consideration Reimbursement Agreement by and between the County of Cook and the Village of Crestwood (Central Avenue 135th Street to 127th Street) sidewalk project. The Village share of the cost is $18,649.00.

Alsip postpones construction of Advance Auto Parts building

by Jan Glaz

A request for approval to allow FJ Development Corporation to start working on the foundation and the shell for the Advance Auto Parts Building located at 4030 W. 115th Street was delayed by the Board of Trustees at the Village of Alsip Meeting, held last month. Trustee Shapiro cited a need for more paperwork. Advance Auto Parts is a leader in the automotive aftermarket; they have more than 78 years of grease, grime and grit under their fingernails to prove it. Advance Auto states that they sell only quality, affordable parts and at present have over 3,500 stores and more than 51,000 of the best-equipped Team Members. The request may be up again for approval at the next regularly scheduled Village Board Meeting on May 6th. A request for subdivision for Speedway 12700 S. Pulaski/4021 W.127th Street to the Planning & Zoning Commission for review also met with delay and will be rescheduled in the next meeting.

Items receiving a positive vote before the meeting adjourned include: Approval of the proposal from Advanced Wiring for the installation of an IPRF Security Camera at the Village Hall and at the Public Works building. Proposal is for the amount of $16,220 for the Security Camera at the Village Hall; $15,350 at the Public Works and $8,970 next year for Access Control. Approval for holiday pay for the Fire Department for the fiscal year 2012/2013 in the amount of $22,518.24 and approval of incentive pay for the Fire Department for the period of 5-1-2012 to 4-30-13 totaled $26,258.28.

MetroSouth Medical Center delivers thriving Midwives program

Jane Sutkowski, Certified Nurse Midwife

With more than 350 midwife-assisted births per year, and six Certified Nurse Midwives (CNM) on staff, the midwifery program at MetroSouth Medical Center is one of the largest in the Chicago area.

More pregnant women today are choosing to deliver their babies with the assistance of a CNM. According to the American Midwifery Certification Board, the number of midwife-attended births in the U.S. has more than doubled since 1991. And, a record one in eight vaginal births is assisted by a midwife, according to a 2012 study by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

The reason for the increase in midwife deliveries is most likely due to benefits associated with midwife-assisted births, including: Patient satisfaction. Increased sense of patient control, Fewer invasive interventions, & Higher rates of breastfeeding.

In addition to delivering babies, midwives provide the following services, to new families: Primary care, Family planning. Preconception care. Low-risk childbirth. Postpartum care & Healthy newborn care (up to 28 days old).

They consult with obstetricians and other healthcare professionals and refer women to appropriate medical professionals as needed. Midwives assist at low-risk births, which comprise 60 to 80 percent of births nationwide, according to the CDC.

Many mothers-to-be choose to have their babies delivered by a midwife in a hospital rather than at home. That way, they still get massage therapy and instruction on deep breathing during delivery in a more intimate environment, yet they are in close proximity of a physician and emergency equipment in case of complications.

MetroSouth Medical Center offers the following as part of its midwifery program: Round-the-clock anesthesiology and neonatologist coverage, Round the clock midwife on-call number, Bilingual team of Maternal Fetal Medicine and OB/GYN physicians. Level II+ birthing center, Childbirth education classes. Nutrition education and consultation. Lactation specialists and breastfeeding support, "Brahm's Lullaby" plays on the overhead intercom every time a baby is born (optional) &. After giving birth, parents receive a celebration dinner with white linen, flower and fluted sparkling juice.

To schedule an appointment with a MetroSouth midwife, please call: 708-489-7800. Visit www.metrosouthmedicalcenter.com

Rita hails new senior homeowner property tax relief law

Legislation backed by State Rep. Robert Rita (D-Blue Island) was signed into law this week that will reduce property tax bills for seniors and homeowners across Cook County and Illinois.

The legislation, Senate Bill 1894, raises the senior homestead exemption from $4,000 to $5,000 - potentially saving seniors up to more than $200 annually. This new exemption for seniors takes effect for Cook County this year.

"Property tax bills for Cook County seniors will fall, starting this year," Rita said.

Seniors in the city of Chicago will have the increase applied to their taxable year 2012 taxes, due in 2013. All other Illinois counties will benefit from the increase beginning next year.

In addition, the law, signed by Governor Pat Quinn, raises the general homestead exemption for Cook County starting next year.

Originally phased-in over three years, Cook County's Alternative General Homestead Exemption was designed to limit yearly increases and assessments on residential property. Cook County currently has a seven percent exemption cap, while the rest of the state maintains a flat exemption rate of $6,000. The new law moves Cook County to a flat exemption rate of $7,000 beginning taxable year 2012.

And City of Chicago homeowners get an extra sweetener.

They will be the first to benefit from the increased exemption as the seven percent cap expires in the city this year. Chicago's maximum reduction under the cap would have decreased from $8,000 to $6,000, but SB 1894 bumps up the maximum to $7,000.

"Property taxes remain too high and remain a burden for most homeowners," said Rita. "Fortunately, this new law will reduce that burden."

The additional exemption savings will be seen on second-installment bills Cook County homeowners will receive this summer, Rita noted.

For more information, please contact Rep. Rita's constituent service office at (708) 396-2822.

Mayor Sexton thanks everyone for voting

by Matt Mayer

Mayor James Sexton thanked everyone who had voted in the April 9 consolidated election at the brief April 15 Evergreen Park Board of Trustees meeting. Sexton also made the following announcements: A letter was received from a resident, thanking Police Officer James Whelan for helping her when she was locked out of her car. A letter was received thanking Public Works Director Bill Lorenz, Gavin Yeoman, Dwight Erickson and all the public works employees for a timely and professional job during the winter season.

The Evergreen Park Fire Department will hold their Annual Kid's Health Fair on May 15, from 3:30 p.m to 6:30 p.m. at the main firehouse at 90th and Kedzie Avenue.

The month of May was proclaimed "Motor Cycle Awareness Month", the week of May 5 to 11 as Municipal Clerks Week and April 26 was proclaimed Arbor Day.

Incumbent Mayor James Sexton will received the oath of office along with incumbents Cathy Aparo and incumbent Trustees Carol Kyle, Mark Phelan and newly elected Trustee Dan McKeown.

Crestwood board meeting standing room only

by Jan Glaz

A standing room only attendance accompanied by photo snapping, congratulations, and applause contributed a festive air to the official business conducted at the Crestwood Board of Trustees Meeting on Thursday May 2nd. The meeting commenced with Mayor Robert Stranezek reading resignation letters: Louis Presta as Trustee; William Pieroth us a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals; Anthony J. Benigno from the Police and Fire Commission; Dino A. Pavoni from the Police Pension Board; Daniel Jurka, Sr. from the position of secretary/member of the Crestwood Zoning Board of Appeals, also as a member of the Crestwood Plan Commission.

Media attention was focused on the approval of the resignation of Police Chief Theresa Neubauer, former water department official, who on April 29th was convicted by a federal jury on 11 felony counts in regards to falsifying water records pertaining to the contaminated water case plaguing the Village morally and financially since the spring of 2011. Within her resignation letter Neubauer attested in writing that she faithfully served the community since she was eighteen years of age and as a Police Officer and later Police Chief put herself in harm's way and that it is with deep regret that she, "due to recent developments resign for the good of the community".

After Robert Stranczek thanked the residents that gave him the honor of serving the village for over 5 years and all the employees of Crestwood who make the Village a better place to live, Louis Presta was sworn in as the new Mayor followed by Jeannette O'Donnell, as City Clerk; Daniel Jurka, Trustee; Anthony Benigno, Trustee and William Pieroth, Trustee.

Before the meeting adjourned officials also approved a Consideration to Direct the Village Attorney to prepare a Special Use Ordinance for Liddle's Auto Marine Repair, LLC n/k/a "Zak's Hi-Tech Collision Center and Liddle's Marine to permit marine and auto body repairs with painting and a drive through for collision estimates with a stipulation that there are no more than 8 vehicles stored overnight on the premises located at 13870 S. Cicero; also approved, a Special Use Ordinance for Xcellent Taek Wondo Center, a Martial Arts School located at 13117-13119-13120 River Crest Drive.

LaGrange Road construction

Beginning May 2013, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) contractor, D Construction, will begin tree removal, median removal, temporary pavement construction and drainage improvements along LaGrange Road.

Both night time and day time work operations are expected with intermittent lane closures northbound and southbound along the median. Lane closures are not permitted between the hours of 2:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Travel lanes will be shifted in the area just south of 153rd Street to accommodate the large drainage structure work in this area.

Work will begin south of 153rd Street and progress north. This includes saw cutting along the median with median removal starting the week of May 6th. There will be no access to the median permitted until the temporary pavement is constructed. Material and equipment deliveries can be expected during the day in preparation for night time work.

Utility relocation work will continue throughout the corridor as well. This work is scheduled to be completed by the end of July in advance of the LaGrange Road Widening Project.

Questions may be directed to www.dot.state.il.us/contact.html or motorists may call 708-403-3578. Updates, as they become available, will be posted on IDOT's website as well as the Village of Orland Park's site at www.orland-park.il.us.

LaGrange Road (US Route 45) is a north-south arterial highway that travels through the center of the Village of Orland Park, small portions of the Village of Orland Hills and along the western edge of Tinley Park. It is a primary roadway that provides access to shopping and employment as well as access to Interstate 80.

Preliminary utility work has begun for IDOT's widening and reconstruction of LaGrange Road from 131st Street to 179th Street. The main widening and reconstruction is scheduled to begin mid to late summer.

Rep. Lipinski invites third district residents to Town Hall meetings

U.S. Rep. Dan Lipinski (IL-3) announced today that he will host two Town Hall Meetings on Saturday, May 11, in Oak Lawn and Chicago's Garfield Ridge community.

At the Town Hall Meetings, Third Congressional District residents will be able to hear from Rep. Lipinski about his work on their behalf at home and in Washington, as well as ask questions and give their thoughts on federal issues. Staff from the congressman's office will be available 30 minutes before the start of the meetings to provide assistance with Medicare, Social Security, veterans' benefits, and other federal matters.

"I want to personally extend an invitation to the residents of the Third Congressional District to my upcoming Town Hall Meetings. As your representative in Washington and someone who strives to improve the quality of life in the communities I serve, it is critical that I hear from you," Rep. Lipinski said. "These events will be fantastic opportunities for you to get help on federal programs and to hear about the wide array of constituent services my office provides. It is my privilege to serve you. I am eager to offer my assistance and hear your ideas."

The dates and times for the Town Hall Meetings are as follows:

Saturday, May 11, 9 to 10:15 a.m. at Oak Lawn Village Hall, 9446 S. Raymond Ave., Oak Lawn.

11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at European Chalet, 5445 S. Harlem Ave., Chicago.

For more information, call 312-866-0481 or visit www.lipinski.house.gov and www.facebook.com/repdanlipinski.

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We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

Black Ensemble Theater presents special Mother's Day concert

Black Ensemble Theater Founder and Executive Director Jackie Taylor announces a special Mother's Day concert, To Mother With Love (A Concert Just For Her), featuring the stars of Black Ensemble. The one-day-only concert will be held on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 12 at 3 p.m. at the new Black Ensemble Theater Cultural Center, 4450 N. Clark Street in Chicago.

To Mother – With Love will feature the Black Ensemble's star performers singing love songs dedicated to "Mom." Featured performers include Rashawn Thompson, Melanie McCullough, Dawn Bless, Meghan Murphy, Lyle Miller, and more.

Tickets, priced at $50, are available by calling (773) 769-4451 or online at www.blackensembletheater.org.

The mission of the Black Ensemble Theater Company is to eradicate racism and its devastating effects upon society through the theater arts. For more information on the Black Ensemble Theater Company, please visit www.BlackEnsembleTheater.org or call 773-769-4451.

Join Thousands on a walk towards a cure for Breast Cancer this Mother's Day

The 14th Annual Beverly Breast Cancer Walk will be held this Mother's Day, May 12, 2013. This very special event is the largest walk in Chicago's Southwest area with proceeds to benefit Little Company of Mary's Nationally Accredited Comprehensive Breast Health Center. The three-mile route starts in Ridge Park (96th and Longwood Drive). To help alleviate parking, a bus service will transport walkers from the east end of Little Company of Mary's parking lot at 95th and California between 7:00 a.m. to 7:40 a.m. and drop off at 95th and Longwood Drive. Return transportation continues until 10:15 a.m. Also, participants who are unable to walk are invited to ride the trolley throughout the route.

The annual event has raised more than $1 million for breast cancer treatment. Register early to receive a free t-shirt with your $30 entry fee. The entry fee for children ages 18 and under is $15. Same-day registration is $10 more for adults and $5 for children (18yrs and under) and t-shirt availability is not guaranteed.

To register for the 14th Annual Beverly Breast Cancer Walk please visit www.beverlybreastcancerwalk.org or call 708.229.5066. For more information on Little Company of Mary's Nationally Accredited Comprehensive Breast Health Center please visit www.myhealthmyjourney.com or call 708.229.4050. To schedule a mammogram call 708.499.8550.

Musichorale sounds good looks good and is a giver

by Annette Dixon

Many years ago, a gentleman by the name of Art Silhan started a music group and practiced in the Clearing Area, my son was there only one year, but what a lovely year that was. Now his son is the Director of Musichorale, and the famous Jeffrey Silhan started in 1980 and the group continues to practice at the Oak Lawn Community Church at 90th and Ridgeland, where they are renting space and have built a garage for equipment and trailer storage.

Musichorale sang at Marijo Doody's funeral and those attended have not stopped talking about the kindness of everyone in the group. Marijo was a member of Musichorale and Theater Critic for Village View Publications. Jeff, stated, "new voices are always welcomed." They present two major concerts and sing at several requested performances throughout the year. After a summer of rest, the group starts rehearsal on September 3, 2013. On that day any high school age or older is invited to visit a rehearsal and give singing a try.

Jeffrey Silhan, a graduate of Augustana College took voice there and won vocal competitions in both Chicago and Quad Cities. He took a directing position at age 19 and has been directing ever since. As a retired Paramedic with the Chicago Fire Department, Jeff knows people and what can heal them, singing is a great antidote.

Musichorale held their annual concert at Trinity Christian College recently, which was their 66 Spring Concert. Some of my favorite songs were Star Spangled Banner, Jesus Loves Me, The Prayer, Make Me an Instrument of Thy Peace, You Raise Me Up, At Last, The Lord Bless You and Keep You.

Thanks to Piano and Keyboard musicians Virginia Hawrysz and Sarah Koehler and Carol Miller: Percussion, Charles Tortorello; Bass Guitar, Tony Koehler who did a wonderful job and congratulations to Monet Lee who received a scholarship award from Musichorale.

www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=jeYsenFpEyA
We The People Stimulus Package - YouTube
(Ray Stevens)

Things to do in Blue Island

Mother's Day Plant and Flower Sale

Beautiful hanging baskets, flats of flowering annuals, perennials, herbs, tomatoes and much more on Saturday, May 11, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Grace United Methodist Church, 12739 S. Maple Ave, Blue Island

Civil War presentation

The Blue Island Arts Alliance hosts James Denny (father of Blue Island resident Kevin Denny), who will travel back in time to his Grzandfather Denny's experiences during the Civil War. The lecture will be supplemented with a violin duet (including Blue Island's Nancy DiNovo) and a recitation of Lincoln's Gettysburg address by Kevin Denny on Saturday, May 11, at 2 p.m., $10 at the Veteran's Memorial School, 12300 S. Greenwood Ave., Blue Island, IL.

Dinner Theater Night

The evening begins at 5:00 with a pasta dinner, raffles, and children's activities followed by a theater production of Alice in Wonderland at 8:00, co-sponsored by the Beverly Arts Center. 708-385-2016 on Friday, May 11, at 5 p.m. at St. Benedict, 2339 York Street, Blue Island, IL

On tap at the Tree

Friday, May 10, Live Cajun from Le Travaillant

Sunday, May 12, Mothers Day Jazz Lunch.

Tuesday, May 21, Goose Island Bourbon County Tap Takeover at Maple Tree Inn, 13301 Olde Western Ave., Blue Island, 708-388-3461.

7th Annual District 130 Art Show

Artwork created by District 130 students will be on display through Friday, May 17 at the Blue Island Public Library, 2433 York St., 708-388-1078.

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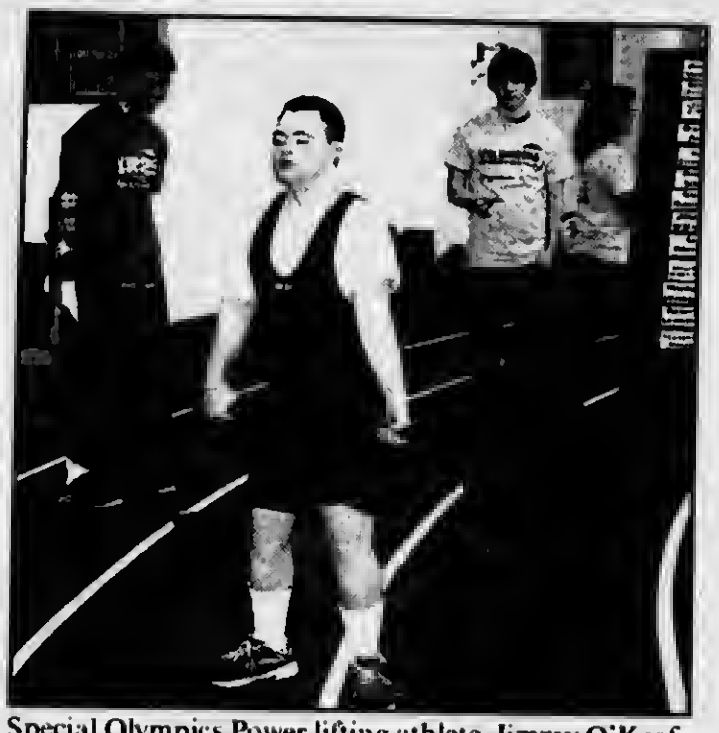

Special Olympics Power lifting athlete, Jimmy O'Keefe of Evergreen Park, participates in the Dead Lift competition. Jimmy's best lift was 160 pounds.

Golds and Silvers at Special Olympics Powerlifting

Recently, a Special Olympics Powerlifting event was held at North Central College. The Oak Lawn Park District had two athletes, Angelo Mascheroni of Bridgeview and Jimmy O'Keefe of Evergreen Park, compete in Squat, Bench and Dead Lift.

The Oak Lawn Park District would like to congratulate Angelo for receiving 1 gold and 3 silvers and Jimmy for receiving 3 golds.

For more information on Special Recreation programs, please contact 708-857-2200.

Advocate Children's Hospital fundraising

Hearts for Hope will hold its 16th Annual Golf Classic golf outing on Wednesday, June 5, 2013, at Silver Lake Country Club in Orland Park with a 9 am shotgun start. Individual tickets are $225 per golfer and $900 per foursome and include lunch, golf, cocktail reception, raffles, donation and dinner. Sponsorships are available, contact Jamie O'Young at 708.684.3585 for more information or visit advocatehealth.com/hopegolf.

Proceeds will support the Pediatric Transport Team at Advocate Children's Hospital, Oak Lawn.

2013 Golf Classic Beneficiary Information:

The Pediatric Transport Team

When a common cold turned into a life-threatening infection, it left a 15-month-old boy in desperate need of a heart transplant. The toddler was being kept alive by the assistance of a heart-lung bypass machine, but required transport from his local hospital to one that specialized in pediatric heart transplants. That is when the team of medical experts from Advocate Children's Hospital, Oak Lawn was called in for help. The only hospital in the Chicagoland area capable of these highly orchestrated transfers, Advocate Children's Hospital's Transport Team provided safe passage for the young boy, who had a successful transplant and is now healthy and happy.

Established in 1996, the Transport Team at Advocate Children's Hospital, Oak Lawn is made up of specially trained nurses, respiratory therapists and physicians. The team used a uniquely designed ambulance equipped with everything needed to care for infants and children during transport from one hospital to the next. On the ground or in the air, the Transport Team acts as a "mobile intensive care unit" for patients ranging from the very smallest neonates to adult patients with pediatric diseases. In 2012, the Advocate Children's Hospital, Oak Lawn Transport Team completed more than 1,700 transports from referring facilities throughout the Chicagoland area.

Funds raised through the 2013 Golf Classic will be used to enhance the capabilities of our specialized Neonatal and Pediatric Transport Team. Philanthropy will help the hospital purchase a machine that will allow the team to perform specialized blood testing in the ambulance, lightweight and sturdy portable infusion pumps, several new ventilators and various securing devices to keep our little ones safe during transports. Your support will help Advocate Children's Hospital, Oak Lawn's Transport Team provide the safest passage for pediatric patients.

Senior announcement

Scrabble, Pinochle, or cards, anyone?

The Bremen Township Senior Center is available for Board Games and socializing Monday through Thursday, before and after our noon Senior Lunch is served. We currently have Mah Jong players on Wednesdays; all are welcome. Free coffee from 10am-2pm. More info and lunch details at 708-687-8220.

Arts Alive! Community Chorale looking for interested participants

The Tinley Park-Park District is restarting the Arts Alive! Community Chorale program with Michelle Konow as the new Musical Director of the singing group. If you enjoy singing, your voice is needed to help bring the joy of this singing group back to the Tinley Park community.

Voice-placement auditions will take place at the McCarthy Recreation Building (16801 S. 80th Ave., Tinley Park) on two dates: Tuesday, May 14 from 7 to 9 p.m. & Tuesday, August 27 from 7 to 9 p.m.

Those wishing to audition should prepare a solo song that showcases their voice, and music for the accompanist, who will be provided for the audition. No appointment is necessary, simply show up any time during the listed audition hours. Previous experience is not required, and all voices and abilities are welcomed. Please contact Melissa Olejarz at (708) 342-4200 for more information.

Konow is a performer and voice teacher. Most notable, she was with the Lyric Opera of Chicago for 15 seasons and sang in over 500 opera performances under the baton of many world-renowned conductors. Konow, a sought after teacher in both the professional and academic worlds, has a very active voice studio where she enjoys nurturing artists of all styles. She has also been integral in the startup of several opera and chorale programs in the Western Suburbs of Chicago. She holds a BS in Education from Indiana State University, and an Advanced Vocal Studies degree from Roosevelt University's Chicago Musical College.

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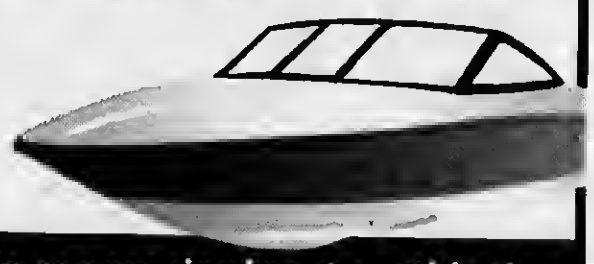

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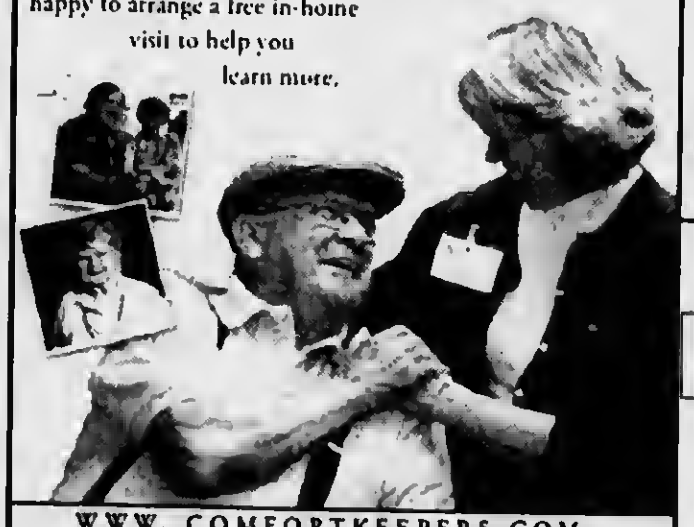

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City Council approves award of contract for 2013 Road Program

The Oak Forest City Council approved an award of contract in the amount of $766,388.62 to Iroquois Paving Company for the 2013 Road Program. The contract came in

$288,611.38 under the engineer's original estimate. The following streets have been confirmed as part of the 2013 Road Program:

Charleston Street from Pine Road to the dead end

El Morro Lane from Ridgeland Avenue to Boca Rio Drive

152nd Street from Laramie Avenue to LaVergne Avenue

Cedar Road from Spruce Lane to Ridgeland Avenue

Liberty Square from Terrace Drive to Reynolds Lane

Lockwood Avenue from 159th Street to 163rd Street

Betty Ann Lane from 155th Street to Natalie Drive

This year's road program also includes a grant from the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association's Local Agency Pavement Preservation program to pave Ridgeland Avenue from Victoria Drive to 151st Street.

Venetian Gardens Restaurant is celebrating their anniversary

For the past 13 years, Sam and his wife Angi has worked in the kitchen at Venetian Gardens Restaurant 7 days a week from 11 am until 10 pm.

They specialize in preparing steaks, chops and seafood dinners, and the dinners come with a choice of potato, soup or salad and warm homemade bread.

This is a family restaurant. They serve at least 6 entree meals for children complete with milk or soda and ice cream for dessert.

Venetian Gardens is also home of the Casino Slots and Video games located in a separate room and licensed by the State of Illinois. Venetian Gardens Restaurant is at 6955 South Roberts Road in Bridgeview, IL 708-458-0900.

THEY ALSO DO CATERING AND CARRY OUTS. Mothers Day, May 12th, they are open 11am to 10pm with a Full Sunday Menu of Roast Chicken, Baked Ham, Chops, Steak & Seafood.

Letter to the Editor

I have recently moved to Palos Hills from Chicago, IL. I have picked up the Village View Publications newspapers and want to let you know how much I have enjoyed reading, all the information on my local suburbs. Thank you for this free newspaper. It has been a big help in my move.

Nancy Reynosa.
Palos Hills.

Classes at Oak Forest Park District

Season al Cooking 2013

"Season" al Cooking Made Easy. Mondays, 6:00 to 9:00pm, must be 18 years & older. Rock bottoms Sous Chef, Jason Goldstine, will ease the pain of figuring out what's on your menu for the upcoming holiday. In each class you will make a 4-course meal that's theme is centered around the upcoming season/holiday. Each class is 1 day; now through Mothers Day, May 20 through Fathers Day, June 24 through 4th of July, July 22. Cajun Cooking, August 19, Desserts. Fee: $42Res/$54Non-Res.

Volleyball Betterment 2013

Youth Volleyball Betterment for boys and girls grades 4 thru 8. Grades 4 thru 8 meet 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm. Classes begin Monday, June 3rd thru July 8nd.

The fee is $42R/$55 NR.

Dodging Craze

Now offering Dodging Craze at our Central Park Building, on Thursday's now through May 16 & May 23 through June 13. This is a fun way each week to expend energy in a supervised environment. Each week kids will be taught a new and fun way to play dodge ball!

Questions? Call (708) 687-7270 or check us out online @ www.oakforestparks.org. The Oak Forest Park District is located at 15601 Central Ave.

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13 Years!
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MAMA IS REALLY IN THE KITCHEN!
Open 7 Days A Week – Monday-Saturday 11am-10pm, Sunday 4pm-10pm
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Happy Mother's Day!
Aijire
May 12th ~ Open at 11:00 am
SURF & TURF Lobster Tail & Full Pound T-Bone Steak $24.95
T-Bone Steak Complete Dinner (Mother's Day Only) $12.95
Full Sunday Menu: Roast Chicken, Baked Ham, Chops, Steak & Seafood

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VFW, American Legion, Elks, Kiwanis, advertise in our Memorials Day, Flag Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, and Veteran's Day issues! Call 708-425-1910 for advertising rates for your events.

Park Lawn volunteer and Big Bikes, Big Hearts Committee Member Steve Bonk let Park Lawn participants Joe and Dana sit on his bike to prepare for the motorcycle run.

Motorcycle Run for special needs at Park Lawn

Hundreds of motorcycle enthusiasts are encouraged ride for local non-profit Park Lawn at their 16th Annual Big Bikes, Big Hearts (BBBH) Motorcycle Run scheduled for May 19. All proceeds will benefit the programs and services individuals diagnosed with developmental disabilities.

In 1997, the first BBBH event attracted around 200 bikers. In past years, more than 700 bikers arrived to ride for Park Lawn.

Registration begins at 8:30 am at Sullivan's Irish Pub and Eatery at 4660 W. 147th St. Midlothian with the first bikes out at 10:00 am and last bikes out by 11:00 am. Breakfast will be offered at Sullivan's. Included in the entrance fee are raffles, door prizes, a bike show, run pins to the first 700 bikers, live music and food at the post run party. The categories for the bike show include bagger, chopper, rat, oldest, paint, metric and best of show.

Non-run participants are invited to the post run party at Sullivan's Irish Pub and Eatery in Midlothian, where there will be live music by Rock Star Rodeo and Bad Idea Band beginning at 2:30 pm. Everyone can receive more information and register online at www.parklawn.com/events or call 708-425-6867. Registration fee is $25/rider and $5/passenger. In the event of inclement weather, the post run party will not be cancelled.

The BBBH committee members and Park Lawn anticipate another successful year due to the help and support from local sponsors such as Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, Hog Wild of Midlothian, Hupy and Abrahams, Jones-Eez Bar-B-Que, Klein Tools, South Suburban A.B.A.T.E, Sullivan's Irish Pub & Eatery in Midlothian, Top Flite Financial, Toys for Tots, The Warehouse Wood Grill & Pizzeria, and Windsor Outdoor Digital Billboards.

Big Bikes, Big Hearts is a charity event hosted by Park Lawn, a local non-profit organization that provides programs and services for individuals with developmental disabilities. Park Lawn's mission is to provide services that promote independence, choice and access to community living for people with developmental disabilities. We provide services for adults between 21 through 70+ years old. Attending this event will provide better medical care and encourage independence for individuals with developmental disabilities. More information about Park Lawn can be found at www.parklawn.com.

Evergreen Park Farmers Market reopens

Welcome to Evergreen Park 9th Season of Farmers' Market.

The Market will be open every Thursday (7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.) through October 31 at Yukich Field, 90th & Kedzie.

OCS Mini-Bus available (11:00 a.m.) to transport Evergreen Park residents to the Farmers' Market. Phone 708-422-8776 for a Mini-Bus reservation or for further information. June 20 the Evergreen Park Library will host a Strawberry Social at the Market. The Library will provide strawberry treats and recipes.

Upcoming Orland Park Garden Club meeting

On Monday, May 19th, the Orland Park Garden Club will host its annual plant auction and white elephant sale. The club meets on the third Monday of every month at 6:30pm at the Robert Davidson Center at 14700 Park Lane. The public is invited with a guest fee of $5.00. For more information, contact Celeste at 708 349-7435 or visit us at www.orlandparkgarden.com.

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Action Association of Alsip

Mayor Patrick Kitching, Clerk Deborah Venhuizen
Trustees:
John Shapiro, Kevin Michaels & Lynn Dwyer

Thanks to all for coming out to vote on Election Day, April 9th.
Your support secured an overwhelming victory!
A sincere thank you goes out to all our trusted volunteers who worked tirelessly day after day in many capacities.
We promise to continue to work hard and keep Alsip moving forward - an even better place that we can all be proud to call "home".

Margaret Skrzypkowski, photo of Monika, Honorable John J. Hynes and Milissa Pacelli

Marist Seniors learn about Crash Program

With the prom and summer vacation season upon us, the administration at Marist High School invited The Honorable Judge John J. Hynes to speak to the Class of 2013. Judge Hynes talk focused on the legal ramifications of the abuse of driving privileges as it relates to operating a motorized vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or controlled substance.

Margaret Skrzpkowski also spoke to the students as a mother whose daughter, Monika, died at the hands of a drunk driver.

The Crash Program has been designed to provide information to help the individual understand clearly how alcohol, and other drugs, affects behavior and driving skills.

Rummage sale

Burbank Manor Presbyterian Church, located at the corner of 80th Street and Central Avenue, Burbank, will hold a Spring Rummage Sale at the Church on Friday, May 10th, from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm, and on Saturday, May 11th, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Bargains will be found in men's, women's and children's wear, white goods, toys and appliances. A $2.00 bag sale will be held on Saturday from 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm.

Hot dogs and soft drinks will be available for sale each day.

School District 130 Art Show

The District 130 art teachers cordially invite the community to attend the 7th Annual District 130 Art Show at the Blue Island Public Library, located at 2433 York Street in Blue Island. Artwork created by District 130 students will be on display through Friday, May 17. Please stop in at your leisure during regular library hours and view the wonderful works of art by District 130 students!

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Saturday, May 18th, 10:00-2:00
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Mother McAuley announces Summer Camps

Camps range from sports to art, music, and theatre.

Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School announces their summer camps for 2013. Grammar school and current McAuley students have a wide range of camps to choose from, including 13 sport camps, two music camps, an art camp, and the Theatre "Kids Kamp."

McAuley summer camps offer both younger and older athletes, artists, actresses and musicians the opportunity to develop skills by learning from and interacting with experienced staff. Athletic camps are taught by the current McAuley coaches, most of whom not only have plenty of experience in teaching, but have played and excelled at their respective sports throughout their lives. The music camps, Guitar and Fiddle, are taught by McAuley Orchestra Director, Ms. Hannah Lawson, who has extensive experience as a performer in multiple orchestras and chamber groups. Mrs. Kathy Gordon Davis, Fine Arts Department Chairperson, is an esteemed artist in the Chicagoland area and will head the two-week Art Camp, while Kids Kamp, a three-week camp with over a 25 year history, will be run by Auditorium Manager, McAuley faculty member, and 99th Street Theatre Company Director, Mrs. Patricia Haynes. A staff of theatre, dance and music professionals will work with the students throughout the weeks.

Sports camps that will be offered during the summer reflect the interscholastic sports McAuley offers its students during the year: basketball, bowling, dance, diving, golf, lacrosse, running, soccer, softball, swimming, tennis, volleyball, and water polo. All fine arts camps, which consist of guitar, fiddle, art, and theatre's Kids Kamp, are open to both girls and boys. For detailed camp descriptions, dates, times and appropriate age groups, visit mothermcauley.org and look for the Summer Camp Information link.

Jim Spain '13, Claire Bessette '13, Elizabeth Frabotta '13, and Tim LaVelle'13

Marian Catholic High School awards 61 Medals of Academic Excellence

Marian Catholic High School hosted an Excellence in Academics Award Breakfast. Medals of Academic Excellence were awarded to 61 sophomores, juniors, and seniors. The Academic Medals of Excellence are awarded to students who have earned a 4.0 or higher grade-point average throughout their time at Marian Catholic.

Senior recipients include Claire Bessette (Orland Park), Edith Boiquaye (Schererville, Ind.), Katlynn Dec (Chicago Heights), Elizabeth Frabotta (Schererville, Ind.) Kareem Johnson (South Holland), Marisol Juarez (Tinley Park), Hannah Lang (Monee), Timothy LaVelle (Schererville, Ind.), Fauve Liggans-Hubbard (Matteson), Christopher Merriman (New Lenox), Ryan Paige (Park Forest), Katherine Reichart (Lansing), James Spain (Orland Park) and Bree Veazey (Olympia Fields).

Junior class honorees are Michael Anderson (Tinley Park), William Bach (Flossmoor), Taylor Bailey (Lynwood), Giselle Beebe (Olympia Fields), Phillip Block (Schererville, Ind.), Kyron Elam (Hazel Crest), Madelyn Funk (Homewood), Corina Gonzalez (Crete), Michael Gray, Jr. (Crete), Charles Helsel (Frankfort), Caitlin Henry (Lansing), Apelete Houngbo (Matteson), Regina Hoyles (Olympia Fields), Margarita Loxas (Dyer, Ind.), Sarah Maier (Olympia Fields), Janet Martin (Olympia Fields), Theresa Milazzo (Matteson), Sara Moreno (St. John, Ind.), Patrick Murday (Frankfort), Chioma Ndukwe (Olympia Fields), Alexa Nelson (Tinley Park), Whitney Plumery (Burnham), Brittany Presley (Steger), Ashley Przybyla (Whiting), Gabriela Rosales (Munster), Sofia Salgado (Chicago Heights), Kaitlyn Sedor (Monee), Sophia Sesto (Chicago Heights), Danielle Sovereign (South Chicago Heights), Katherine Spear (Mokena), Jacqueline Surd (Lansing), Christopher Trlak (Park Forest) and Gabrielle Young (Hazel Crest).

Members of the sophomore class include Allyson Brooks (Homewood), Kalyn DesJardins (Chicago Heights), Allison Gregorovic (Lansing), Riley Harber (Whiting, Ind.), Genevieve Helsel (Frankfort), Deidre Johnson (Flossmoor), Lauren Ringo (Crete), Francesca Robinson (Richton Park), Linda Salgado (Chicago Heights), Nicole Szewczyk (Lansing), Alexander Tama (Chicago Heights), Andrew Whitehead (Matteson), Robin Wilson (Frankfort) and Dana Zavesky (Flossmoor).

"We are pleased to honor students who have earned a grade point average of 4.0 or higher," said Dr. Shirley Morris, Assistant Principal. "These students have consistently demonstrated knowledge and understanding of Marian's rigorous academic program, which prepares them for the global environment."

Presented each year, the Medal of Academic Excellence has been awarded to 708 students since the program began in 2004-2005 school year.

Learn about estate and retirement planning at SXU's Protect Your Future workshop

"Estate Planning 101" scheduled for 10 a.m. on Sat., May 18.

Many Americans don't have a plan for handling their assets if they die or become incapacitated. To make sure your wishes and goals are carried out to your satisfaction, join us at Saint Xavier University's "Protect Your Future: Estate Planning 101" workshop on Sat., May 18.

The workshop is scheduled from 10 a.m. to noon in the Butler Reception Room, located in the Warde Academic Center at SXU's Chicago campus, 3700 W. 103rd St. This event is free and open to the public, and is one in a series of programs to provide information on the topic of estate planning. Seating is limited and refreshments will be served.

The workshop will include timely professional information by trusted legal and financial advisors, covering wills, trusts, and gifts to family and favorite charities. Participants will also learn about planning for a financially successful retirement.

Presenters include: Karyn R. Vanderwarren, C.P.A., J.D. '93, an attorney-at-law; Scott VanBurk, a bank premier at BMO Harris Bank; and Todd M. Gilleylen, CFP, CRC, a financial advisor at BMO Harris Financial Advisors.

This program is presented by BMO Harris Bank and sponsored by Saint Xavier University. For more information or to register in advance, please contact University Advancement at (773) 298-3940 or advancement@sxu.edu, or visit www.sxu.edu, keyword: estate planning.

Moraine Valley Technology building open house

Take a tour and learn about the Computer-Integrated Technology department at an open house at Moraine Valley Community College on Friday, May 10, 6 to 9 p.m. in the Center for Contemporary Technology, Building T, 9000 W. College Pkwy in Palos Hills.

Current, high school or potential Moraine Valley students and community members are welcome to attend and learn about the technology-based programs offered at the college including mechanical design/CAD, computer animation, management information systems, cybersecurity, computer networking, and more. The Center for Contemporary Technology was recently renovated, and tours will be available in addition to presentations and demonstrations throughout the building. A representative from Moraine Valley's Admissions Office will be on hand as well as personnel from several four-year universities to talk about transfer agreements. Refreshments also will be available.

There is no need to RSVP, just show up and learn how to get involved in technological programs at Moraine Valley.

For additional information, contact Chuck Bales at (708) 974-5401 or Bales@morainevalley.edu or Ricky Moore at (708) 974-5333 or MooreR@morainevalley.edu.

Novena to St. Rita of Cascia

The St. Rita of Cascia Shrine Chapel, 7740 S. Western Ave., Chicago, IL 60620, will be hosting its 106th Annual Nine Day Solemn Novena to St. Rita of Cascia. Mass and Novena Prayers will take place each evening at 7:00 p.m. Monday, May 13th through Tuesday, May 21st leading up to Mass and Novena Prayers in celebration St. Rita's Feast Day on Wednesday, May 22nd at 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

For more information please call (773) 925-6600 or visit www.stritahs.com.

Nine Day Solemn Novena to St. Rita, Monday, May 13, 2013 through Tuesday, May 21, 2013.

6:00 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation

7:00 p.m. Mass and Novena Prayers

Feast Day of St. Rita Masses, Wednesday, May 22, 2013.

9:30 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation

10:00 a.m. Mass and Novena Prayers

6:00 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation

7:00 p.m. Mass and Novena Prayers

Blessed Roses will be distributed at the Feast Day Masses.

Minita Gandhi who plays Priya and Adam Poss. (Vijay) and Mark Smith. (Bernard).

The Lake Effect written by Rajiv Joseph is like a blossoming Flower

by Annette Dixon

The Lake Effect unlike the movie has a different affect on the viewer since it is a play and not a film. The contents and theme is nothing like the film. This play struggles with differences of ethnic groups with a whole new approach. This play has the sensitivity of family members uniting during times of need. We all have struggles in a our lives hopefully not like this family.

In a gentrified neighborhood, Mr. Joseph, the Playwright used his familiar surroundings of Cleveland, which could have heen any large city. An Indian hrother and sister, long estranged, are reunited hy the sudden death of their father.

An African American friend of the late father divulges a slew of family secrets and instantly a story is developed. Secrets from the parents past along with the truth comes family members realities and a complicated web of relationships that are intertwined.

This play along with other plays that Rahiv Joseph wrote certainly proved this man is a very good playwright. Another play I had seen recently was Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo. also written hy him. He is a book writer and co-lyricist for the upcoming musical Fly, adapted from JM Barrie's novel Peter Pan. Mr. Joseph received his BA in Creative Writing from Miami University and his MFA in Playwriting from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. He served for three years in the Peace Corps in Senegal, West Africa.

Timothy Douglas, director of this play also is well know in Chicago with ereditis including Etiquette of Vigilance at Steppenwolf, a Mourning Become Electra and Changes of the Heart at Remy Bumppo. He directed plays Off Broadway and throughout the East Coast and throughout the United States and Norway. Timothy Douglas holds an MFA from the Yale School of Drama.

The Lake Effect at Silk Road Rising is The World Premiere and opened April 23, 2013 and can be seen until May 26. Performance schedule is Thursday, 7:30 pm, Friday, 8:00 pm; Saturday, 4:00 pm and Sunday 4:00 pm. Tickets are $35 and can be purchased hy visiting www.silkroadrising.org or call 312-857-1234 x 201. Silk Road Rising is located at Pierce Hall at The Historic Chicago Temple Building. 77 West Washington St. (lower level) and $8 parking for Silk Road Rising patrons at Self Park, 230 W. Washington. (building with Cosi restaurant; validation required.

Lookingglass present Still Alice based on the novel by Lisa Genova

Editor Note - Lookingglass Theater located at Water Tower Works. 821 N. Michigan Ave. Tickets can be purchased online www.lookingglasstheatre.org or phone 312-337-0665.

Professor Alice Howland is at the peak of her career studying the human brain when her own mind begins to falter. Fiercely independent. she hattles to preserve her way of life, even as confusion clouds her thinking and her memory begins to fail. This world premiere adaptation of the award-winning novel is at the same time heartbreaking and hopeful.

"What is extraordinary ahout Lisa Genova's book and Christine's adaptation of it is that it takes on a fact of life which has increasing relevance for so many of us, hut treats it with great compassion, humor, l manity, and light.

The cast of Still Alice Includes

Ensemble members Eva Barr (Alice), David Kersnar (Doctor David), and Tracy Walsh (Doctor Tamara); Cliff Chamherlain (Son); Chris Donahue (John); Joanne Dubach (Lydia): and Mariann Mayberry (Herself).

The creative team for Still Alice Includes:

Ensemble member John Musial (Scenic), Artistic Assoeiate Alison Siple (Costumes), Mike Durst (Lighting), Artistie Associate Rick Sims (Sound/Composition), and Mike Tutaj (Projections).

About Still Alice artists

Eva Barr (Alice/Ensemble Member) is still among us after founding the Lookingglass Theatre Company with seven other unemployed eohorts in 1988. Since then, she's huilt DreamAcres Farm, an off-the-grid, organic vegetahle farmstead in SE Minnesota, and founded the Dreamery Rural Arts Initiative, offering arts and agricultural experiences for all ages.

Cliff Chamberlain (Thomas) makes his Lookingglass dehut with Still Aliee. Chicago credits include productions at Steppenwolf, The Goodman, Timeline, Northlight, ATC, Writers', and The House, where he is a proud Company Member. Broadway credits: Superior Donuts.

Chris Donahue (John) first performed with Lookingglass 23 years ago in The Odyssey, followed by Eurydice, The Arabian Nights, and Metamorphoses.

Joanne Dubach (Lydia) is a graduate of the School At Steppenwolf and a member of The Division Theatre Company. Local eredits include The Glass Menagerie with Mary-Arrchie: A Life with John Mahoney at Northlight Theater; Absolute Hell at the Gift; and Bordello and Hickory Dickory at Chicago Dramatists.

David Kersnar (Doctor Davis/Ensemble Member) is a founding ensemhle member of the Lookingglass Theatre Company and has performed, designed and direeted with the company since 1988.

Mariann Mayberry (Herself) last appeared at Lookingglass in Argonautika and prior to that in The Master and Margarita.

She is a member of the Steppenwolf Theatre Company where she has been in numerous productions including most recently Good People.

Tracy Walsh (Doctor Tamara/Ensemble Member) is a Lookingglass ensemhle member. She has appeared in many plays at Lookingglass over the years.

Christine Mary Dunford (Adaptor/Director/Ensemhle Member) has been a Lookingglass Ensemhle Memher since 1989 and has originated roles in nearly two dozen Lookingglass productions that played in Chicago, New York and Los Angeles.

Most recently she sang the parts of Marianne and the Grandmother in Eastland; played Gail, the counselor, in Trust, and Mrs. Webb in Our Town.

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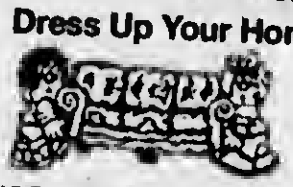

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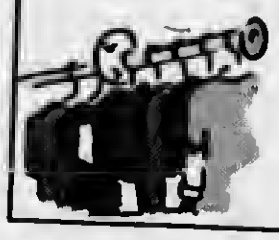

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(NAPSA)-There's good news-and some shortcuts-for homeowners who want to be at the cutting edge of lawn care. Here are some tips to achieve a beautiful green space:

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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 39 | Number 22 | May 21, 2013

Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

Hickory Hills budget has a condition

by Jan Glaz

Aldermen agreed to pass the City of Hickory Hills Operating Budget 2013-2014 on May 9th with a condition. City Treasurer Dan Schramm introduced the motion for approval with a stipulation that the Water Capital Projects remain open for discussion. Schramm suggested that the Public Works Department venture out and obtain some outside costs on various programs that will then be discussed to develop a short term, long term program. Alder man John Szeszycki replied that the City was not short of money but there are questions in regard to costs. Treasurer Schramm related that the approved budget would be sent electronically through the city's law firm where it would be prepared for the Budget Appropriations Ordinance. This Ordinance would be up for approval at a future city council meeting.

An Installation Program 2013 was presented by City Clerk, D'Lorah Catizone. Catizone administered the oath of office to newly elected officials: Ward 1 Alderman Brian Waight; Ward 2 Alderman Debbie Ferrero; Ward 3 Alderman Brian Fonte and Ward 4 Alderman Joseph Stachnik. Applause, official photos, and refreshments followed the swearing in ceremony. After the installation, Mayor Mike Howley announced the retirement of Erwin Ernst as Zoning Board Chairman. Howley revealed that Ernst has been the chairman since 1999 and praised his professional contribution to the City of Hickory Hills. "I thank you from the bottom of my heart." said the Mayor to Erwin Ernst. Syed Iman has been appointed to replace Ernst as Zoning Board Chairman. Iman is retired from IDOT after 25 years as an engineer and manager.

A motion carried for one new business license introduced by Alderman Brian Waight before the meeting adjourned. Aladdin's Place located at 8821 West 87th Street, Hickory Hills, Illinois. Waight relayed that the business is a banquet hall with the capacity for 200 quests.

Outgoing Trustees Cynthia Trautsch (D-1), Tom Duhig (D-4), and Tom Phelan (D-6) congratulated the new board and extended their best wishes. Cook County Commissioner John Daley also congratulated the new board and pledged to work with the newly elected mayor and village board.

Other highlights: An ordinance which Bury requested be drafted which establishes a legislative license and ethics committee was approved. This was one of Bury's campaign promises to reinstate this committee. An ordinance for a variance to allow the construction of a swimming pool at 8749 Newland Avenue was approved.

An intergovernmental lease agreement between the Village and the Oak Lawn Hometown School District 123 to relocate the Senior Center was approved. The building on 95th street, which housed the Senior Center, is in the process of being sold. The promotions to the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners of one police lieutenant and one police sergeant from the current eligibility list was approved as well as a fire department request to purchase a F250 truck for $34,000. May 19-25 was proclaimed Public Works Week.

Oak Lawn's new Mayor and other officials sworn in

by Matt Mayer

Cook County Judge Denise K. Filan administered the oath of office to newly elected Mayor Sandra Bury, incumbent Village Clerk Jane Quinlan, incumbent Trustee Alex Olejniczak and newly elected Trustees Tim Desmond (D-1), Terry Vorderer (D-4) and Mike Carberry (D-6) at the May 14 Oak Lawn Board of Trustee meeting.

Outgoing Mayor Dave Heilmann and Trustee Carol Quinlan (D-5) were absent. Trustee Tom Duhig (D-4) who lost reelection to Terry Vorderer was president pro-tem for the meeting.

Standard Bank donates $4,000 to Hickory Hills Park District

Standard Bank has once again sponsored the special events and programs for the Hickory Hills Park District. The $4,000 will be allocated to pay for the park district special events and monthly senior luncheons which include: Egg, Carrot & Candy Hunt, Summer Concert Series, Street Fair rides and attractions, Bike Rodeo, Pumpkin Fest, Children's Christmas Party, VIP Party, & Snowy Downhill Egg Hunt, just to name a few. The bank has been sponsoring these events since 2007. Also Standard Bank employees volunteer at all of the special events and our considered a member of our park district community. In return for the sponsorship, Standard Bank is able to have a promotional table at special events, display a banner and place an advertisement in the district's program brochure throughout the year. More importantly the bank continues to show support to the community by continuing to offer special events to the community that the entire family can enjoy.

Justice Trustee Henry Oszakiewski replaces Trustee Kinga Bartoszek

by Jan Glaz

The Honorable Judge Ted Rogers' performed the swearing in ceremony for newly elected officials on May 13th at the Village of Justice President and Board of Trustees Meeting. Up for another term and proud to serve and promote the Village of Justice to the best of their ability are: President Kris Wasowicz; Clerk Kathy Svoboda; Trustee Ed Rusch Jr., Ordinances, Licenses, and Public Printing; Trustee Melanie Kuban, Public Safety; replacing Trustee Kinga Bartoszek, Finance and Insurance Chairman, is Henry D. Oszakiewski. Congratulations, photos, hugs and applause followed the Oath of Office ceremony.

The Board of Trustees meeting resumed with an announcement from Clerk Svoboda that a memorial service is planned for Monday, May 27th, at 9:00 a.m. at the Veteran's Memorial in Commissioner's Park and that on Wednesday June 19th a Silver Star Banner Day Ceremony will take place. All disabled veterans are entitled to have a Silver Star Banner flown on that day and to attend the ceremony regardless of the percentage of their disability. "If you have anyone you would like information sent to please give me a call and I will forward that information so they may participate. said Svoboda.

Trustee Rick Symonds introduced a motion that carried to authorize the hire of two, part-time seasonal workers to perform grass cutting and general maintenance on detention areas and village owned properties, subject to all customary conditions of hire: physical; drug test; employment eligibility; valid driver's license; and acceptance of the terms outlined in the employees manual. Symonds commented hours will be approximately 20 per week. In other business Trustee Sue Small requested a motion granted by the board to approve the proposal from Heritage Technology Solutions for the purchase and installation of an ADA Automated Door System for the Justice Village Hall for a cost not exceed $7,300. Also approved a Resolution Authorizing the closing of Archer Avenue completely between 88th Avenue and Roberts Road, on Sunday, October 20th from 7:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. for the ISD #109 5K Resurrection Run. Before the meeting adjourned Trustee Small reminded everyone that the next regularly scheduled Board of Trustees Meeting on May 27th, due to Memorial Day, will be moved to Tuesday May 28th.

Village View

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 10 | May 21, 2013

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Two new faces face a four year term in Oak Forest

by Jan Glaz

City Clerk/Collector Scott Burkhardt administered the Oath of Office to newly elected officials on May 14th at the City of Oak Forest Council Meeting. Plaques acknowledging outstanding service and a round of applause preceded the installation ceremony. Leaving their positions as officials representing the citizens of Oak Forest are 6th Ward Alderman, Peter Muscarella, and Treasurer. Dwayne K. Fox. Incoming, facing a four year term: 6th Ward Alderman, James Hortsman; 4th Ward Alderman, Charles P. Toland; 2nd Ward Alderman, Richard Simon; Treasurer, Joanne Kelly; and Mayor, Henry L. Kuspa.

A plus for Oak Forest: Community Development Director Adam E. Dotson provided details supporting a Class 8 Tax Incentive for Commercial Property located at 6114 W. 159th Street, the former Car X Auto Service. The Resolution received a positive vote after Dotson described the unique situation surrounding the action requested. A Class 8 Tax Incentive is provided through the County Assessor, but only considered with the municipality's support and it reduces the property tax assessment at the property for ten years. Craig Esposito, petitioner, owns C.A.R.S. he is currently leasing at 5740 West 159th Street. Esposito wishes to acquire the former Car X Auto Service property contingent upon receiving a Class 8 tax incentive as the property has seen several sale price reductions and has been vacant for over 2 years. The tax incentive would allow him to make the necessary improvements as well as better manage operating costs. Most important, the city wishes to attract this type of business replay especially since the petitioner is a 23 year resident looking to re-invest in Oak Forest instead of locating elsewhere, also the business will immediately double the number of their employees and expand their service capability.

Before the meeting adjourned two Ordinances met with approval. An Ordinance to decrease the number of liquor licenses due to the closing of Villa Rivera at 5233 West 159th Street and an Ordinance to increase the number of liquor licenses due to the opening of Mongolian Bar and Grill at 5233 W. 159th Street.

The inherent benefits of Orland Park Ponds

by Jan Glaz

The cost of replenishing game in Village Ponds met with approval on May 6th at the Village of Orland Park Board of Trustees Meeting. The accepted proposal to purchase game and feeder fish stock stems from the Opossum Hill Fish Farm of Edwardsville, Illinois; the agreed cost is not to exceed $8,999.75. Over the past few years the Orland Public Works Department has stocked many of the Village's public ponds with game fish for resident recreation. Feeder fish are also added to augment the food chain for the game fish. Aside from recreation, the benefits of fish stocking ponds is that it helps in preserving water quality and contributes to the aesthetics of the pond plus the feeder fish themselves feed on mosquito larvae. Jones Fish and Lake Management submitted a price just over $14,000.00. The Public Works Department reported that it has had a very good relationship over the last four years with Opossum Hill as their quality and heartiness of their stock has been outstanding. This year the Parks Department will stock Lake Sedgewick and four other Public Ponds (Capistrano, Eagle Ridge #4, Fawn Trail and Marley Middle Pond). In 2013, approximately 70% of stocking will take place at Lake Sedgwick due to its size and recreational activity. Since this pond is directly connected to the Colette Pond, it will also have a positive impact there as well.

Newsworthy: Before the meeting adjourned all Trustees voted in favor of a site plan and Special Use Permit for Joy of Thai Restaurant at 11013 W.179th Street, the Fountain Square shopping center, located at Fountain Circle and 179th Street. Restaurants located within 300 feet of residential properties require special use permits.

The Fountain Square shopping center was approved in 2005 with the original ability to host two Restaurants, one at the east end and the other at the west end. The shopping center is currently host to a dental practice and Anytime Fitness, with three units vacant. The Joy of Thai Restaurant is proposed for the eastern most unit, while Great Clips is relocating to a middle unit from their current location half a block west of the subject site at 179th Street and Wolf Road (the proposed location of McDonalds). As a result, The Joy of Thai Restaurant will be the only restaurant in the shopping center.

Photo by Wehmeier Portraits

Orland Park Chamber congratulates Pro Sports Performance

Pro Sports Performance owners Steve Purvin, Scott Hejna and John Binkowski accept congratulations from Orland Park Chamber members Paul Novak, Waddell & Reed; Rob Wehmeier, Wehmeier Portraits and Susan Byrne Coldwell Banker. Pro Sports Performance offers training programs for adult fitness, sports performance and weight loss. Personal programs can also be designed for teams as well as corporate employee groups.

For more information visit www.orlandparkchamber.org or call (708) 349-2972.

Tinley Park President recognizes Village Clerk Rea

by Jan Glaz

On May 7th at the Village of Tinley Park Board of Trustees Meeting Edward J. Zabrocki, Village President, proclaimed that the week of May 5th through May 11th be set aside to honor a vital part of local government throughout the world, Municipal Clerks. The Office of Municipal Clerk is the oldest among public servants. Zabrocki extended special thanks and appreciation to Tinley Park Village Clerk, Patrick E. Rea, for the vital service he performs and to his and other Municipal Clerks dedication to the communities they represent. Municipal Clerks provide the professional link between the citizens, the local governing bodies and agencies of government at other levels and they continually strive to improve the administration of the affairs of the Office of the Municipal Clerk through participation in education programs, seminars, workshops and the annual meetings of their state, province, county and international professional organizations.

Trustees agreed to adopt a Resolution Detailing the Abstract of Votes Declaring the Results of the Election of April 9, 2013. Official results were received from the Cook County Clerk's Office which includes the total vote in both Cook and Will County. Patriek Rea, Village Clerk, praised the performance of Cook County's tally of all votes and all percentages up to the end of April. Rea declared that this was the largest municipal casting of votes experienced in the history of the Village.

Newsworthy: Two Resolutions were approved on the consent agenda recognizing Sean O'Connell Kerr and Y. Matthew Rahman on attaining the rank of Eagle Scout. Officials considered but did not approve adopting the prevailing wage rates for laborers, workers and mechanics contractually employed by the Village of Tinley Park. Trustee Leoni provided details for the diseussion as this was the first reading for this Ordinance which is an annual ordinance required by State Statutes aeknowledging and requiring that the prevailing wage rates be paid for all applieable work contracted by the Village. The requirement creates a "level playing field" for the labor costs of such contracted work and a copy of the Ordinance must he filed with the Illinois Department of Labor. The appointment of Trustee Patricia A. Leoni to serve as President Pro-Tem for the 2014 Fiscal Year was recommended by President Zabrocki and the Board of Trustees concurred.

Village View

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SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 14 | Number 10 | May 21, 2013

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Palos Heights Alderman Prestinario honored for dedicated service

by Matt Mayer

The Palos Heights City Council May meeting commenced with Mayor Robert Straz recognizing Alderman Jeff Prestinario for 12 years of dedicated service to the City of Palos Heights. The council approved the following mayoral re-appointments: Fire and Police Commission 3 year terms, Edward A. Gausselin and John Sexton. Preservation Advisory Board 5 year terms. Janet Champion and Diana Wolan. Veteran's Commission 3 year terms. Joseph Staehon and Charles White.

Other highlights: A motion to accept a proposal from Natural Patch Urban Forestry Consultants and authorize the public works director to hire the firm for $19,750.00 was approved. This company will provide professional services to manage a street tree inventory and develop a management plan for the city - this project will be covered by a grant. A request to release the retainage to Crowley Shepard Asphalt for $6,256.22 for the public works parking lot and a request for payment to Insituform for $71,865.90 with a retention of $7,985.10 for the sanitary sewer-lining project was also approved.

A request from the police department to conduct "Tag Days" on Friday, May 31 on the corner of 127th and Harlem Avenue for the Special Olympics Torch Run in conjunction with their Annual Cop on the Rooftop at Dunckin Donuts was approved. A request from the Salvation Army to conduct their Annual "Donut Days" on Friday June 7 and Saturday June 8 was also approved.

The meeting concluded with the Honorable Judge Robert Clifford administering the oath of office to incumbent Mayor Robert Straz, incumbent City Clerk Thomas Kantas, incumbent City Treasurer Frank Oswald and incumbent Alderman John "Jack" Clifford (2nd Ward,) Dolores Kramarski (3rd Ward), Gerald McGovern (4th Ward) and newly elected Alderman Donald J. Bylut (2nd Ward).

Annual Air Show presented by the Palos RC Club

The Palos R/C Club will be holding its Annual Air Show on Sunday June 9, from 9 am to 3 pm at 107th street and (45) RT LaGrange Road.

Free admission, free parking. Watch experienced pilots perform crowd-pleasing maneuvers with their radio control airplanes. There will be a viewing of planes at noon. If you see a plane that you like, you can ask the builder/pilot about it.

For more information contact Ron Sheehan (630) 983-2627 or visit www.palosrc.com.

Moraine Valley classes provide electronic devices instruction

As more consumers purchase electronic devices such as the Kindle Fire, iPad, Android, and other popular tablets, the need for training on how to maximize their capabilities increases. Moraine Valley Community College is offering noncredit courses this summer that will highlight the features of such devices.

In the "Learn How to Use the Kindle Fire" class, students will learn useful tips and techniques to better use and enjoy the Kindle Fire in the classroom, office and at home. This one-day class will be offered on Wednesday, June 19, and Monday, July 22, from 6 to 9 p.m. The fee is $45.

Take the "Critical Comparison of Popular Tablets" course to see a comparison of a variety of popular mobile tablets. Students will get a better understanding of the capabilities of tablets such as the iPad, iPad Mini, Android, and Kindle Fire. This one-day class will be offered on Wednesday, June 12, and Wednesday, July 31, from 6 to 9 p.m. The fee is $29.

Learn useful tips and techniques to maximize the use of and enjoy an Android device (phone or tablet) in the "Making the Most of an Android Device" course. This two-day class will be offered on June 24 and 26, and July 15 and 17, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. The fee is $45.

Register today in person at the Registration Office, located in S125 on campus, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills, or by calling (708) 974-2110 (TTY for the hearing impaired 708-974-9556). Participants also can register online at morainevalley.edu by selecting "Register for Noncredit Classes" under Academic Focus then "Search, register and pay for noncredit classes."

Chicago Ridge Mayor Gene Siegel announces retirement

The Village of Chicago Ridge announces the retirement of Mayor Gene Siegel after 38 years of dedicated service to the citizens of Chicago Ridge.

Mayor Siegel was first elected in 1975 as part-time Mayor. Since that time the Village has seen tremendous growth and improvements, including paved streets and sewers, streetlights, a full-time Fire Department, a Mall with over 100 stores, a state of the art Municipal Complex that houses both the Police Department and Village Administration as well as new Fire Department and Public Works facilities.

On May 28, 2013, the Committee Meeting will begin at 7:00 pm followed by the regular Board Meeting. The newly elected Officials will be sworn in at the conclusion of the Board meeting. After adjournment, there will also be a reception to congratulate Mayor Siegel on his retirement and to wish him well. Refreshments will be served.

Residents of Chicago Ridge are invited to attend this meeting.

Library Quilt & Needlecraft Show

The Chicago Ridge Public Library, 10400 S. Oxford Avenue, is holding a Quilt and Needlecraft Show from May 30th to June 1st showcasing the library's Block of the Month Quilting Group and Needlemania Club. The quilts and needlecrafts that will be on display are myriad of beautiful colors and designs. Community members are invited to attend a reception honoring the fiber artists from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, May 30th. The show is open Friday, May 31st from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, June 1st from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visitors are welcome to try their luck at the Friends of the Library gift basket drawing. The baskets will be filled with new and 'gently used' quilt and needlecraft related items. For more information please contact the library at 708-423-7753.

Reserve your
ad in our
Father's Day issue,
on June 4.
Call Linda
for details at
708-425-1910.

Village View

We serve our community with good news!
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B-MAC EDITION

Volume 7 | Number 10 | May 21, 2013

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Tax Rebates slated for Crestwood

by Jan Glaz

On May 16th at the Village of Crestwood Board of Trustees Meeting newly elected Mayor, Louis Presta, answered a citizen query in favor of returning property tax rebates to the Village of Crestwood. "Once we settle the water problem... an average of two years," said Presta. In response to another question regarding the pending tainted water case against Crestwood, Presta stated that money was in the bank and that taxes had not been raised due to the trial. In addition, when the court case is settled sometime this year the Village expects a 25% reimbursement of funds. Presta urged citizens to read the Crestwood Advisor for updates and important Village news.

Village Attorney, David B. Sosin, administered the Oath of Office to Linda Madlener, after the motion to appoint a trustee to fill in the unexpired term of Trustee Louis Presta carried.

Noteworthy: The Windy City Thunderbolts, 14011 S. Kenton, lease option was approved for extension. The team's 2013 play schedule can be viewed at http://www.wcthunderbolts.com/schedule. The Board of Trustees turned in a positive vote for a Resolution approving a consultant agreement between Eight South Group, LLC and the Village of Crestwood. Long awaited; Mayor Presta announced that Ross Dress for Less, located in the Rivercrest Shopping Center at 13200 Cicero Avenue, is planning to open on June 1st.

Alsip Park District awarded OSLAD Grant

Alsip Park District Receives $368,500 Grant to Renovate Aquatic Park!

Governor Pat Quinn announced that the Alsip Park District received the Open Space Land Aequisition and Development (OSLAD) Grant. It results in the receipt of $368,500 for the renovation of the Alsip Aquatic Park for the 2014 pool season. The project to begin following the 2013 pool season includes several ADA improvements providing aquatic programming for all and the addition of a Splashpad, drop slide and aesthetic improvements. OSLAD remains one of the most successful programs that the State administers. Not only will these capital improvement projects create hundreds of jobs, but a total of $15,329,300 in OSLAD Grants for 2013 was awarded benefiting more than 7 million Illinois citizens! Governor Quinn awarded the 45 communities in person. Representing the Alsip Park District were Jeannette Huber, Executive Director, Kathy Perretta, Commissioner and Mike Baiardo, Superintendent of Recreation.

Midlothian President Terrence Stephens steps down

by Jan Glaz

"I would like to thank everyone for the opportunity to serve the Village and appreciate the people I worked with and appreciate the chance to serve my town, a town I still love. I would like to congratulate the winners of the election and wish you the best of luck in all endeavors to move the Village forward. I would also like to thank the employees of the Village for supporting me over the years, especially the department heads... With that I will be honored to step down," said Mayor Terrence on May 8th at the Village of Midlothian Board of Trustees Meeting. Judge Robert T. Clifford then stepped forward to administer the oath of office to all newly elected officials; Clerk, Michael Kohlstedt; Trustees, Karen Kreis; Jerry Gillis; Gary L 'Heureux. Newly elected Mayor Sharon L. Rybak overwhelmed with emotion began the oath of office several times before proudly accepting the duties of President. Mayor Rybak thanked her husband, friends and family who gave her the courage to run for election and all the voters who put their trust in her. Rybak concluded her comments with a promise for positive change in Midlothian in the next 4 years. "I figured out I have 4,460 days to get a lot of work done. Please continue your support. If you ever need me my phone is always available to you and I will be available to you at the Village Hall as often as possible."

Prior to the swearing in ceremony, and before adjournment, the Board of Trustees approved to Execute Inducement Resolutions for the 147th and Cicero Avenue TIF District for Clark Street Development and Viking Partners. The Resolution, explained Stephens, means that before the actual completion of the TIF process any money spent on TIF eligible costs will then be considered under the TIF (Tax Incentive Financing). An Ordinance regarding a Tax Cap Law received a positive vote. The Tax Cap Law relates to the tax levy and rebates and sets the levy at the current levels thereby stabilizing the tax levy.

Alsip Trustees McGreal and Quinn bid farwell

by Jan Glaz

Although outgoing Trustees Sheila B. McGreal and James T. Quinn had often entered into heated debates with Mayor Patrick Kitching regarding government issues during their term, on May 6th at the Village of Alsip Board of Trustees Meeting both expressed a message of thanks and added that it had been a pleasure to serve the Village of Alsip. Incoming Trustees Kevin Michaels and Lynn Dwyer are slated to be sworn in on Monday May 13th.

Noteworthy: Trustee Dalzell reported that Grief Packing, 4300 W. 130th; donated a new Gas Trac Meter valued at over $900.00 to the Alsip Fire Department. Trustee Daddona announced that this year's Cops on the Rooftop Event will take place on Friday, May 31st, from 5 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Dunkin Donuts at 12150 S. Cicero Avenue. All Trustees voted in favor to allow FJ Development Corporation to begin working on the foundation and the shell for the Advance Auto Parts Building located at 11500 S. Pulaski. The Board also approved a grand garage sale to be hosted by the Alsip Park District on June 1, 2013 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Apollo Recreation Center loca ted at 12521 S. Kostner Avenue and agreed to refund $300 for a completion bond for the Family Dollar Store at 12299 S. Pulaski, paid on permit #12-12131; and a request for a refund of $3600 to Koesis Technologies, Inc. 11615 S. Austin, Unit B, for incorrect payment of license #13-33628. The Village honored a request to hire six full time temporary employees for work this summer.

Annual Garden Walk

The Flowers are blooming and Spring is in the air! While you're waiting for that warm weather to appear, take time out to sign up for the 2nd Annual Village of Midlothian's Annual Garden Walk being held on Sunday, June 30th. The registration forms are available at the Midlothian Village Hall or online at www.villageofmidlothian.net. Last year's walk was a great success with 15 beautiful homes participating. Why not showcase your hard work in the garden this year?

Sponsored by the Village of Midlothian Beautification Committee.

Evergreen Park Mayor and other officials sworn in

by Matt Mayer

Prior to officials receiving the oath of office at the May Evergreen Park Board of Trustees meeting, Mayor James Sexton thanked Trustee Jerry Bosch for 28 years of dedicated service to the village of Evergreen Park. Bosch was first elected in 1985. "He's done a remarkable job working with the Illinois Municipal League and the southwest mayors and managers. Jerry has also agreed to stay on with us and take the position of legislative liaison, which was created when the former late Mayor Anthony Vacco decided not to run for reelection," said Sexton. The position has remained unfilled since his passing in 2002.

Judge Brian Flaherty administered the oath of office to incumbent Mayer James Sexton along with incumbent Cathy Apparro and incumbent Trustees Carol Kyle, Mark Phelan and newly elected Trustee Dan McKeon. Evergreen Park Library Trustees were also sworn in.

Sexton made the following announcements: The police department will once again present the "Hook A Kid on Golf Program" free of charge for boys and girls from the village between the ages of 8 to 13. Registration is limited and applications will be accepted on a first come first serve basis. The first clinic will be from Monday June 17 to Thursday June 20th. The second clinic will be held on Monday July 15 to Thursday July 18. Applications will be available on the village website as well as the village hall and police department. The Annual 5K Run/Walk will be held on Saturday June 29 at Klein Park. Registration will be from 7:30 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. with the event beginning at 8:30 a.m. The 25th Annual "Day in the Park" will be held on Saturday, June 29 from 11:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Community Center. The 45th Annual Independence Day Parade will be held on Wednesday July 3 at 6:30 p.m. Fireworks will began at dusk at Duffy Park 92nd and Millard. Animal licenses are due by May 31 and penalties for not obtaining a license will be issued beginning June 1. A current rabies certification is required when registering.

Other high lights the board approved a resolution of the Village of Evergreen Park authorizing the execution of an intergovernmental agreement with School District 124 for the establishment of a School Resource Officer. "We have had great success with a police officer at the high school for the past 12 years," said Sexton. "This program allows the officer to spend the day and interact with our young folks in 7th and 8th grade. He gets to know them and gets to know some of the issues and problems they have," said Sexton. These officers are trained just like a Dare Officer is trained to work with kids. "I am happy that we are now going down to 7th and 8th level for this program", said Trustee Kyle.

Rep. Lipinski to hold senior fairs

U.S. Rep. Dan Lipinski will be hosting Senior Fairs throughout the month of June to give seniors the opportunity to get assistance with a variety of issues from his staff as well as local organizations, agencies and business that provide services to seniors.

"As part of my job as a representative of my constituents, I hold these fairs to help seniors cut through the bureaucratic red tape and get the services they need," Rep. Lipinski said. "My office has helped countless seniors solve problems involving Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, veterans' benefits, the Postal Service and other federal issues. I am proud to work on behalf of the seniors of the Third District and fight for their interests in Congress."

The dates, times and locations for the Senior Fairs are as follows:

Monday, June 3, 10 a.m. to noon at VFW Rhine Post 2729, 5858 South Archer Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60638.

Monday, June 10, 10 a.m. to noon at Oak Lawn Community High School, 9400 Southwest Highway, Oak Lawn, Ill. 60453.

Monday, June 24, 10 a.m. to noon at Romeoville Recreation Center, 900 W. Romeo Road, Romeoville, Ill. 60446

Among those scheduled to attend are representatives from the Social Security Administration, Walgreens, Advocate Christ Medical Center, Franciscan Village, Waddell & Reed, Comfort Keepers, the Cook County Sheriff's Office, La Grange Pointe, Home and Hearth Caregivers, and the Salvation Army.

For more information, call 312-886-0481 or visit www.lipinski.house.gov.

City of Oak Forest names Richard Rinchich public works director

The City of Oak Forest has named Richard Rinchich as its public works director, effective immediately.

"Rich will do a great job managing the public works department," said City Administrator Troy Ishler. "He is extremely knowledgeable about all facets of public works and is committed to bringing a higher standard of living to the residents of Oak Forest."

Rinchich has served as the department's assistant director since August 2002. In this role, he managed more than 30 employees and was responsible for planning and managing several divisions of public works, including streets, forestry, water and sewer utilities, stormwater, building and grounds, and the community bus. As the department's capital improvement program manager, Rinchich oversaw capital projects, including road reconstruction, sidewalk replacement, right-of-way restoration, water and sewer main replacement, stormwater system improvements, street lighting upgrades, and the citywide geographic information system. In addition, he served as a city representative on the Little Calumet River and Cal-Sag Watershed Planning Councils, Greenest Region Compact, Clean Air Counts, and Oak Forest Tree Board. Rinchich also was instrumental in securing more than $680,000 in grant funding for tree plantings, the Waverly Avenue culvert replacement, interior lighting upgrades in city buildings, a new HVAC system for the Community Center, and emissions upgrades for eight public works trucks.

Before coming to Oak Forest, Rinchich served as the assistant to the director of public works for the Village of Oak Park, evaluating plans, preparing specifications, compiling bid packages, and implementing a procurement process for capital building projects. He also evaluated bids submitted for design/build services and authored recommendations to the village board based upon project requirements, budgetary constraints, zoning issues, and neighborhood concerns.

Rinchich began his career in Orland Park as the planning technician for the community development department and moved up to the position of administrative analyst in the public works department. While in Orland Park, Rinchich designed and coordinated the construction of a bulk material storage system - saving the village approximately $45,000 in design and construction costs.

Rinchich is a member of the American Public Works Association and American Water Works Association. He has received training and certifications from various institutions and organizations, including the University of Illinois, the Illinois Public Risk Fund, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the National Safety Council. Rinchich earned a bachelor's of science degree and certificate of applied spatial analysis from Illinois State University and is pursuing a master's of public administration from Illinois Institute of Technology.

Oak Lawn Chamber 7th annual Spring Into Summer event

The Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce is seeking businesses to participate in the seventh annual Spring Into Summer Event, which includes New Car Show, Pet Parade & Vendor Fair on Saturday, June 8th. The Vendor Fair will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Cook Ave and Dumke Drive near the Village Green. All businesses are welcome.

For more information or to register your business, contact the Chamber office at (708) 424-8300 or visit www.oaklawnchamber.com

Mayor Jim Sexton featured speaker at Lions Club meeting

Evergreen Park Mayor Jim Sexton was the featured speaker at a recent meeting of the Lions Club of Evergreen Park. The Mayor gave a complete updating of all activities in the community. The mayor then answered all questions from Lion members. The mayor was complimented on a job well done in making Evergreen Park a fine place to live. Greeting the Mayor are Lion Treasurer Harry Onderwater, Lion Bill Bruinius, Mayor Sexton and Lion President Terry Summers. For further info on the Lions club you may visit their web site @ http://lionsclubofevergreenparkil.lionwap.org.

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We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

Village of Worth events

June 2 Sunday, 3pm: Please join the Worth Park District Historical Museum and members of the Hazel Green CEmetery association as they provide a walk through history in our first Cemetery Walk. Learn about the interesting past of Worth and Worth township. There is a small fee to register. Please call 708-448-7080 for information.

The Worth Cruisers Car Club has a car show at the Water's Edge Golf Club located at 115th and Harlem every Monday Night from 6pm to dusk. Refreshments are available at the Edge bar and grille. Admission to the event is free for spectators and car owners. This is a great family event.

A special car show will be held on Sunday, June 16th at the Metra Lot at 110th and Depot during the Flea and Farmers Market for Father's day. Bring Dad out with his car, or stroll down memory lane in this sure to be memorable event. Cars are welcome to join, but this event will cost a small fee with proceeds going to the Veteran's memorial rehabilitation program for the memorial that stands at 111th and Harlem Ave. For more information please call Dan at 708-231-2599.

The Farmers and Flea Market returns on Sunday June 16th from 8am to 3pm at the Metra Lot at 110th and Depot Street. Vendors are being accepted still for a small fee. For more information please visit www.villageofworth.com or call Rich at 708-508-4601.

Every Friday now through July 6th at the Water's Edge Golf Club, there is a "Putterpalooza". From 8am-2pm you can have a chance to sink a 30 foot put and win a free round. The golf course is located at 115th and Harlem Ave.

The next Neighborhood watch meeting is Wednesday, June 26th at 7pm. Meetings are held at the Village Hall at 7112 w 111th Street. All are welcome to attend. Call officer Ritz at 708-448-3979.

As a reminder to residents, Vehicle stickers can be purchased at the Village Hall at 7112 w 111th Street. Stickers must be on the lower right windshield inside vehicles no later than July 1st. For questions or information please call 708-448-1181

Please mark your calendar for the annual "National Night Out" march on Tuesday, August 6th at 6:30 pm. Please meet behind the Village Hall. All are welcome and encouraged to attend this annual, family event.

North Palos Fire Department offers CPR training for the public. The next training will be on June 8 at 9:00 a.m.

You must register at Station #1 10629 So. Roberts Road, Palos Hills prior to being accepted into the class. There is a fee for resident and non-residents. No walk ins will be allowed! Class size is limited. 708-974-4474.

The Village Wide Garage Sale is June 21-22. Please register no later than June 14 at noon. You can register at teh Village Hall at 7112 w 111th St. Please email Shannon at sbeverley@villageofworth.com or call her at 708-448-1181.

The village of Worth is selling megapasses for the annual Worth Days Fest. The carnival will be held on August 22-25 with entertainment starting the 23rd. Megapasses can be purchased at the Village Hall for a discounted rate prior to the opening of the festival. For prices, visit www.villageofworth.com.

The Worth Days Fest concludes on Sunday, August 25th with a parade. If you are interested in being a part of this parade, please contaet Clerk Price at 708 448 1181. Admission is free in the parade.

The Worth Public Library is offering a Summer Kick off party on Friday, June 7th for all participants in the summer reading program. Please call Youth Services Librarian Cory at 708 448 2855. A wide array of activities will happen this summer. Visit the website at www.worthlibrary.com

The Library offers online ebooks, ereader check out, free music services by freegal and more.

Register now for the Worth Ridge Panthers football team. Coaches, players and cheerleaders are now being accepted for the fall season. For information please call Mike Murphy at 708-952-1103 -

Annual Salute to Veterans

Senior Citizens Commission hosts Annual Salute to Veteran.

The Oak Forest Senior Commission invites you to its Annual Salute to Veterans on Thursday, May 25. The afternoon will include music by Edizon Dayao, a delicious meal and cash bingo. The doors open at 10 a.m. and the program begins at 11 a.m. Tickets are $4 and can be purchased at City Hall.

Honor our veterans at annual Memorial Day ceremony on May 27.

The city will host its annual Memorial Day ceremony on Monday, May 27 at 11 a.m. at the Veterans Memorial in front of City Hall.

Box Lunch at the Oak Lawn Senior Center

Thursday, May 30th at 10:30 is Box Lunch Day.

The sponsor of the month is Ingalls Home Care and Hospice. They will bring with them extensive knowledge of Medicare benefit coverage. They will be available to answer your Medicare questions.

After the presentation lunch will be served and bingo played. Tickets are available at the Oak Lawn Senior Center for $4.00.

For more info you may call 708-499-0240.

MetroSouth offers new Robotic Surgery Technology

MetroSouth Medical Center is taking Southland communities to the next level of minimally invasive technology with the addition of the da Vinci® Surgical System, which integrates robotics and minimally invasive techniques to allow surgeons to perform more complex procedures.

Minimally invasive surgery (MIS) has revolutionized many surgical procedures that formerly involved significant downtime and recovery. It has become popular for physicians and patients alike because it potentially offers less pain and scarring, shorter hospital stays and fewer complications – getting you back on your feet and back to the things you enjoy, more quickly.

The da Vinci Surgical System integrates robotic technology to virtually extend the surgeon's eyes and hands. Using the system, the surgeon operates while seated at a console viewing a 3-D image of the surgical area. The system mimics the surgeon's hand movements in real time, in a smaller scale, within the operating site in the patient's body. The robot doesn't replace the surgeon, but provides sharper detail and a 360-degree view of the surgery site, as well as greater dexterity in navigating complex anatomical structures.

"Robot-assisted surgery using this new technology gives the surgeon a better view of the operating area, with improved clarity and detail, which allows for greater precision when performing surgery in delicate or hard-to-reach areas," explains Allan Ruby, M.D., F.A.C.O.G. "In our experience, this can mean an operation that results in reduced complications for the patient, as well as shorter hospital stay and recovery time."

A number of procedures that formerly could not be performed using traditional MIS technologies can now be performed using the da Vinci Surgical System. The nature of the technology makes the system ideal for performing complicated surgeries. In women, it is used to treat heavy uterine bleeding (hysterectomy), fibroids (benign tumors of the uterus), endometriosis (a major cause of pelvic pain) as well as uterine prolapse (dropping or falling-out of the female organs). It is also used to perform surgeries involving prostate and colorectal cancer.

"There are many surgeries in which it is advantageous to use this minimally invasive technique because it may help to reduce blood loss, may yield less post-operative pain and discomfort and less risk of infection, possibly a shorter hospital stay, and less scarring," explains Dr. Ruby.

"We are very pleased to have the opportunity to offer the da Vinci surgical system. We've only started to explore all the capabilities of this system," Dr. Ruby says.

Letter to the Editor

Editor:

After a successful National Volunteer Week, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our wonderful team of volunteers at MetroSouth Medical Center for all they do to serve our patients and assist our staff.

It's unfortunate, but true: In today's hectic world, we don't always say "thank you" enough. But as a vital local health resource, it's important for us to acknowledge that our community mission would be much harder to achieve without the assistance of our many volunteers.

Volunteering is a choice, a noble choice, that these exceptional men and women have made on behalf of our organization. We're proud to recognize our volunteers' roles in improving our patients' care experience.

At our hospital, volunteers add their own personal touch to help provide comfort to patients and family members. Our volunteers also tell us their experience is personally satisfying, challenging and fun when they use their skills, talents and free time to benefit others.

Again, we thank our volunteers for their service, empathy and compassion, and for their selfless dedication to our patients and our mission.

Thank you.
Enrique Beckmann, M.D., PhD
Chief Executive Officer
MetroSouth Medical Center
Blue Island, IL

The Beautiful Yard contest

Amateur Gardeners only. Entries must be received by May 31st.

Send name, address and phone number to juneveurtis@yahoo.com or call 708-499-0578.

Gardens will be judged upon Originality of design, suitability of plants, overall neatness on June 4th.

1st, 2nd and 3rd place awards will be presented at theOak Lawn Village Board Meeting Tuesday, June 11, 2013.

Marist High School teacher and alum Don Richardson '77 is this year's winner of the Champagnat Award, an honor given to faculty members who demonstrate the example set by St. Marcellin Champagnat in their teaching. Don will also be celebrating his 25th anniversary at Marist next year.

Oak Lawn Library announcements

Friends Request Book Sale Donations

Donate your "gently used" books, magazines, CDs and videos to the Friends of the Oak Lawn Library Ongoing Book Sale at the Oak Lawn Public Library. Due to space limitations, the Friends will not accept Readers Digest Condensed Books, encyclopedias and older text books.

The donation drop-off area is near the library's Cook Avenue entrance. Interested parties may fill out a short form at the Reception Booth to receive a tax letter by mail that acknowledges their donation.

The Friends Ongoing Book Sale provides an ever-changing variety of books, magazines and other forms of media at bargain prices. Hardcover books cost 50 cents each, paperbacks are 25 cents and magazines cost five cents each. Audio visual items are priced as indicated. Funds collected from the book sale support library programming and purchases that are beyond their regular budget.

Free Movie: "Silver Linings Playbook"

The Oak Lawn Public Library, will host a free movie screening of "Silver Linings Playbook" on Monday, June 3 at 2 & 6:30 p.m. After a stint in a mental institution, former teacher Pat Solitano moves back in with his parents and tries to reconcile with his ex-wife. Things get more challenging when Pat meets Tiffany, a mysterious girl with problems of her own. Starring Jennifer Lawrence, Bradley Cooper and Robert De Niro. R. 122 min. 2012.

This movie is the first of 20 titles featured in the Library's weekly "Reel Books" summer series of films that are based on books.

Health Sereenings at the Library

The Oak Lawn Community Partnership will hold free health screenings at the Oak Lawn Public Library, on Wednesday, June 12 from 10-11 a.m. Blood pressure screenings will be performed by personnel from the Oak Lawn Fire Department. Hearing tests (limit 15) will be given by an audiologist from Advocate Christ Medical Center.

The Oak Lawn Community Partnership is a cooperative alliance between the Village of Oak Lawn, Advocate Christ Medical Center, service organizations, educators, interested community members and business leaders.

A New Way to Enjoy eBooks

With OverDrive's Next Generation experience, users can borrow titles with just one click. Through an upgrade in the Oak Lawn Public Library's Media On Demand platform, eBooks are now easier to download. View a preview video at www.mediaondemand.org (scroll to the bottom of the page). Some of the key features include:

Once you've logged in with your Library card and PIN numbers, it just takes one click to borrow a title.

OverDrive Read™: Browser-based technology enables instant access to eBooks, online or offline, with no software or downloading required. All you will need is a computer or device with a modern web browser.

A new responsive design optimizes the website for mobile and desktop use.

Powerful discovery tools enable you to find your next book fast with filtered search, personalized title recommendations and more. It's just like online shopping!

Don't forget to check out the Library's newest eBook platform, Axis 360. These titles are available exclusively to Oak Lawn patrons.

To access all of the Library's eBooks, click on the "eBook" icon in the right-hand column of our homepage. Happy downloading!

For more information, call (708) 422-4990 or visit www.oaklawnlibrary.org. Oak Lawn Public Library is located at 9427 S. Raymond Ave.

SCOTT'S GARAGE
www.ScottsGarage.net
Elim Benefit Car Show
Saturday, June 22nd, 2013
3rd Annual Show
Cars, Bikes & Trucks
13020 S. Central
Palos Heights, IL, 60463
Show Vehicles:
Pre-Registration $15 • At Gate $20
Free admission
Call 708-396-2082 or email elimshow@scottsgarage.net
Visit www.scottsgarage.net
This is a not for profit event;
all proceeds go to Elim Christian Services
ELIM

Oak Forest Police Department continues to receive high marks from citizens

Once again the majority of individuals who have had contact with the Oak Forest Police Department and responded to the Illinois Police-Community Interaction Survey (IL-PCIS), administered by the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC),reported that their interaction with the department was satisfactory or very satisfactory.

"I am extremely pleased that we continue to do well on these surveys," said Oak Forest Police Chief Greg Anderson. "I know first-hand the high degree to which our officers hold themselves. It's nice to know that residents see it as well and that their experiences with us are positive ones."

During the latest survey period, individuals who have had encounters with Oak Forest police officers rated how they felt about the interactions. Overall, 88.9 percent of the respondents to the survey reported that they were either very satisfied or satisfied with the way they were treated by the Oak Forest police officers during the encounter.

The department will continue to participate in the program over the next several months and encourages persons who are contacted to participate by responding to the survey. According to the Chief Anderson, "the more responses we get, the more helpful the survey results will be to our department."

The IL-PCIS, administered by UIC's Center for Research in Law and Justice, is funded by the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority through a grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, and U.S. Department of Justice. Administrators began collecting information from individuals early last fall. The goal of the survey is to collect data that will help establish new benchmarks for excellence in policing and thus help to improve the quality of police services delivered to the community.

The Oak Forest Police Department is one of about a dozen Illinois communities to participate in this innovative statewide program. Based on a pilot program that is part of the National Police Research Platform administered by UIC researchers, participating departments use the survey data to monitor their performance and improve their training programs.

For more information on the Oak Forest Police Department's role in the survey project, call 708-687-1376 or cityofoakforest@oak-forest.org.

Village of Tinley Park summer events

Downtown Tinley Park Summer Events, visit www.tinleypark.org, www.downtowntinley.com or call (708) 444-5678 for more information.

Benches on the Avenue

Along Oak Park Avenue from 172nd to 176th

Admire the Benches on the Avenue themed "Fairy Tale Festival"

"Meet the Artist" event prior to Music in the Plaza on June 15

Farmers' Market

June 1 to October 12, 7:00 a.m. to Noon at Zabrocki Plaza (17375 S. Oak Park Avenue)

Oak Park Avenue Train Station Parking Lot.

Visit the market every Saturday for the best selection of fruits, vegetables and fresh flowers.

Cruise Nights

Every Tuesday, June 4 to August 27, 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. along Oak Park Avenue from 171st Street to 173rd Street

Music in the Plaza

7:00 to 10:00 p.m. at Zabrocki Plaza (17375 S. Oak Park Avenue)

Oak Park Avenue Train Station Parking Lot, 173rd& Oak Park Avenue

June 15: Juke Box Band (Variety)

June 29: 80's Enough (80's Pop and Rock)

July 13: Clean Slate (Classic Rock)

July 27: The Walk-Ins (Variety)

August 10: Lucky Town (Country)

August 24: Reckless (Variety)

September 7: Cadillac Casanovas (Oldies)

15th Annual Caribbean Beach Block Party

Sunday, July 21, Noon to 7:00 p.m. at 171st Street to Hickory Street along Oak Park Avenue.

Come and enjoy live music on two stages and a variety rides and attractions. Free family fun for all.

North Stage

Noon to 3:00 p.m. The Hat Guys

4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. 95th Street Band

South Stage

Noon to 3:00 p.m. Rockstar Rodeo

4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Johnny Russler and the Beach Bum Band

Festivals, Parades, Carnivals, Fun Fairs, Fireworks, 4th of July events, Las Vegas Nights, Expo's, reserve space early.
We offer Full Color call Linda 708-425-1910.

City of Oak Forest briefs

Senior Citizens Commission hosts Annual Salute to Veterans

The Oak Forest Senior Commission invites you to its Annual Salute to Veterans on Thursday, May 23. The afternoon will include music by Edizon Dayao, a delicious meal and cash bingo. The doors open at 10 a.m. and the program begins at 11 a.m. Tickets are $4 and can be purchased at City Hall. Honor our veterans at annual Memorial Day ceremony on May 27 The city will host its annual Memorial Day ceremony on Monday, May 27 at 11 a.m. at the Veterans Memorial in front of City Hall.

Question of the Week

When do water conservation measures begin? The City of Oak Forest's water conservation measures has gone into effect. Outside water use is allowed from 7 to 11 a.m. and 7 to 11 p.m. on odd or even dates based on your property address.

Things to do in Blue Island

Open House at Moraine Valley Education Center

Join us to learn about the classes and services that we offer at the center. Find out how to enroll and get more information on financial aid. Call 708-974-5300.

On Saturday, June 8, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. at Ar Moraine Valley Education Center, 12940 S. Western Ave.

Progressive Garden Tea

The Blue Island Historical Society is featuring two gardens and they are looking for two more. Call 708-371-8546 to attend the walk or show off your garden. Reservations required.

Sunday, June 16, 1 to 4 p.m., $20 at Blue Island gardens.

Sports & Fitness

Rotary night at Thunderholts stadium.

Watch our own Thunderbolts take on the Frontier Grays and support the Blue Island/ Crestwood Rotary. Call Lynn at 708.239.1323 ext. 21.

August 8, 7:05 p.m., $10 at Thunderholts Stadium, 14011 S. Kenton Ave., Crestwood.

Yard Sale on the Hill

More than 50 homes participate in this giant garage sale.

Saturday, June 15, 8 to 3:00 p.m. at 127th south to Vermont from Western to Highland.

Cruise Night

Our 2nd season includes a wide variety of cool cars, from hot rods to limousines and more. Free slice of Beggars Pizza to the first 30 cars.

Monday, June 3, 5:30 p.m. at York Street at Western Ave, Blue Island, IL

Chamber Golf Outing

Join us for our 61st annual outing. Sponsored by Metro Recycling and MetroSouth Medical Center, the day begins with a Taste of Blue Island where area restaurants serve delicious sampler at 11 a.m., shotgun start at noon, dinner at 5.

Wednesday, June 5, 11 a.m. at Meadows Golf Club, 2802 W. 123rd St., Blue Island

Drivin' the Dixie

More than 150 Model A Fords and other vehicles tour down historic Dixie Highway. The event begins in Blue Island and continues south to Momence.

Saturday, June 15, 8 to 10 a.m. at Union & Western, Blue Island, IL. drivingthedixie.com

Orland Township to host monthly immunization clinic

Orland Township is hosting its monthly immunization clinic on Tuesday, June 4, 2013 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the township building, 14807 S. Ravinia Avenue.

Immunizations are offered to Orland Township residents only. In order to receive an immunization, children 18 and younger must be uninsured, accompanied by a parent or legal guardian and display proof of residency and a valid shot record. Adult vaccines are also available for a fee and also require proof of residency.

Vaccinations that are offered include: DTap, DTap- IPV/Hib, DTap/ IPV, DTap/Hep B/IPV, haemophilus b conjugate, Hep A, Hep B, Hep A/B, Hib, HPV, IPV, meningococcal, MMR, pneumococcal, TB, Tdap, TD, varicella, rotavirus, typhoid. The adult vaccine Zostovax is also available at most clinics but an appointment is necessary for this vaccine. Please call the township office at (708) 403-4222 to request a Zostovax immunization.

What is happening in Evergreen Park

Office of Citizens Services

AARP Defebsuve Driving Class

Thurs and Fri, June 6 & 7, 9am to 1pm for Evergreen Park residents 50 plus, held at Community Center.

To register, please call (708) 422-8776)

One Day Trip to Civil War Museum in Kenosha

Tuesday, June 25, 7am departure. Lunch at Boat House Eatery, 10-mile roundtrip journey on Electric Railroad. Tickets, $82 each, call (708) 422-8776.

Farmers Market is open on every Thursday, at Yukich Field.

Recreation Department Happenings

Summer Programs Registration Begins

9am to 8pm at the Community Center

Swim Registration

10am to 2pm at the EPCHS Pool.

Trip to see "Oliver!" at Drury Lane in Oak Brook

Thursday, May 30, $50 adults/ $40 students. Bus Departs Community Center at 6:45pm for the 8:00pm curtain. Call (708) 229-3373.

Prescool Registration Ongoing

Children who attend must be 3-years old and fully toilet-trained by the first day of school during the week of August 26, 2013. To register, you must provide the child's birth certificate, proof of residency and a $35 non-refundable deposit (which will be applied to the first pre-school payment).

Youth Commission

The Youth Center is open Tuesday to Friday, 3pm to 5pm. A variety of activities, games and social activities are available for youths from 5th grade through High School. Call the Evergreen Park Youth Commission for additional information and opportunities. This is a fun, safe place to be! For more information, call (708) 229-3377.

Babysitter's Class!

The EP Youth Commission is pleased to offer the American Academy of Pediatrics Babysitters Class. Offered on Saturday, May 25th from 9am to 4pm. Cost is $45 per student (please bring a bag lunch). For ages 12 or older. Only 10 students per class: space will only be held for paid participants. Register early!

Community Events

Most Holy Redeemer Parish Carnival

Wednesday, June 12 through Sunday, June 16!!

Save the Date! American Cancer Society Relay For Life Event at Evergreen Park Coming July 13 at Brother Rice High School.

For more info, call (708) 423-5258 or visit www.relayforlife.org/evergreenparkil

Community Resources Fair

Save the date. On June 1, 2013, The Village of Midlothian Community Service Committee is sponsoring a Community Resources Fair at Bremen High School, 15203 Pulaski Road, Midlothian, IL., from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Service Organizations participating in this event will provide valuable information on resources available to those facing personal and financial hardship. Participating organizations include: Illinois Department of Veteran Affairs, Midlothian Police Department (Yellow Dot Program), Christian Community Health Center, Kids In Danger, and South Suburban PADS.

For more information contact the Community Service Committee at cs4vom@yahoo.com or visit their Facebook page at http://www.facebook.com/#!/CommunityServiceMidlothianIllinois.

VFW, American Legions, Elks, Kiwanis. Advertise for Flag Day and Fourth of July issues. Call Linda at 708-425-1910.

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Moraine Valley

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More than 3300 athletes and the Chicago Bears J'Marcus Webb Celebrate at the Opening Ceremonies of the 45th Annual Special Olympics Spring Games at Soldier Field. Photo Credit: Tracy Collings

45th Annual Special Olympics Spring Games

Thousands of athletes, spectators and volunteers marched Soldier Field to celebrate the official opening of the 45th annual Special Olympics Spring Games. Chicago Bears offensive tackle J'Marcus Webb served as Honorary Coach for the day, and declared the official opening of the Spring Games, which included more than 25 track and field events. Several of the athletes who participated in the very first Special Olympics Games 45 years ago, returned to where it all began for the celebration. The Olympic Toreh was earried onto the field by students from Vaughn High Sehool, recent winners of the Keith Magnuson Sprit Award. Special Olympics Chicago president, Jen Krainer, was awarded the Anne McGlone Burke Award for her tireless service dedication to Speeial Olympics programs and athletes. Special Olympies began in the city of Chicago during the summer of 1968 at Soldier Field. It has now beeome a world-wide movement with more than four million athletes in 170 eountries participating.

Bridgeview Public Library events

Bridgeview Library in conjunetion with Heartland Blood Centers will be holding a blood drive at the library, 7840 West 79th Street, in Bridgeview on Monday, June 10th from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. To schedule your appointment please call 708-458-2880, ext 105 or stop by the referenee desk. Donors will receive a free S5.00 AMC gift card. If you have any questions about being qualified to give hlood please call 1-800-7TO-GIVE. Photo ID is required.

The Bridgeview Public Library will be holding a special event, Steadier Steps; Better Balance = Better Function on Saturday, June 1st at 2:00 p.m. This is a 60 minutes interactive presentation which will teaeh partieipants how to asses their risk and fear of falling as well as identify speeifie defieits with regard to balance and strength. Participants will then learn how to develop and implement an individualized program to improve both balanee and strength.Please wear comfortable clothing and shoes. Don't forget to register for this program hy either calling the library at (708)458-2880, ext. 105 or stopping in at the referenee desk.

9 to 5 to be performed at the Oak Lawn Park District

The Oak Lawn Park District Theatre produetion of "9 to 5" will be running at the Oak View Center, 4625 W. 110th St., on Fridays, May 31 and June 7 and on Saturdays, June 1 and June 8, at 8:00p.m. Shows will also be on Sundays, June 2 and June 9, at 3:00p.m.

Tickets for this produetion are available at the Oak View Center. Prices are $22 for adults and $21 for seniors and children, twelve and under.

To order tickets or for more information, please call 708-857-2200.

Together We Cope

Join us Wednesday, June 5, 2013 for Luau On the Links at the Odyssey Country Club, Tinley Park for our annual golf outing. Registration 10:30 am, shot gun start 11:30 am, lunch on the course, dinner at approximately 5:00 pm.

Hole-in-one prizes: $10,000 cash, seven day cruise for two, set of golf clubs, $500 golf shop credit.

Sponsorships are still available. Call now to reserve your spot on the course: Golf and dinner, $125; Golf only, $95; Dinner only, $45. Don't miss this exciting event!

Contaet Karen Moran or Kerry Nolan at 708-633-5040 for additional information, or email Kmoran@togetherwecope.org or Knolan@togetherwecope.org.

Vaction Bible School

Trinity Lutheran Church 9701 S. Brandt Ave. Oak Lawn is getting ready for God's Backyard Bible Camp. Vacation Bible School will be held the week of June 10-14 from 9:00-11:30 a.m. each day. Preregistration is required and taken until June 5th or when classes fill up. Boys and Girls that have finished one year of preschool through fifth grade are invited to join us for a fun time at our big baekyard!

For more information, please call Trinity Lutheran Church 708-422-0193.

Smith CCRCs hold free meetings for caregivers coping with family members or friends who have Alzheimer's or dementia

Chieago and southwest suburban families and earegivers of seniors living with Alzheimer's disease or dementia will meet to discuss their eoneerns at one of two free 6:30 p.m sessions either Thursday, June 6, at Smith Crossing in Orland Park or Tuesday, June 11, at Smith Village in Chieago's Beverly neighborhood.

The hour-long support groups at both continuing care retirement communities (CCRCs) will be open to questions and comments from the assembled group. Before ending, light refreshments will be served.

On June 6, Smith Crossing at 10501 Emilie Lane in Orland Park (enter at 104th Avenue and 183rd Street) will welcome as a speaker a geriatric nurse praetitioner from Angels at Home Healthcare, which is dedieated to providing high quality home-based patient eare with compassion and respeet. Smith's direetor of admissions Amie Kamba and life enrichment direetor Dana Mahler then will lead a diseussion about the challenges of earing for an aged relative at home. To reserve, call 708-326-2300 or go to familyandfriends@smitherossing.org.

June 11, Smith Village's memory support eoordinator Diane Morgan will lead the Q&A meeting at 2320 W. 113th Place in Chieago. To reserve a seat, please eall 773-474-7300 or go to familyandfriends@smithvillage.org.

For more information about how Smith Senior Living ean help seniors enjoy their retirement, eontact Smith Crossing at 708-326-2300 or SmithCrossing.org and Smith Village at 773-474-7300 or SmithVillage.org.

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The Fabulous Miss Wendy rocking the music world

by Kelly White

Wendy Jacobson, better known to fans as The Fabulous Miss Wendy, began her music career with only 20 dollars to her name and since has risen to releasing her debut, self-titled, full length CD in 2011 and playing overseas with Slash in Iraq on two musical tours of duty.

Wendy's continued perseverance through the trenches of her difficult start with the music industry is inspired by her own mission to inspire generations of girls all over the world to follow their dreams. "I do think that rock and roll is a man's world for now, but that is changing," Wendy said, "I feel that there are already more little girls buying guitars than little boys." Wendy has come a long way since picking up a guitar at the age of ten, and became a virtuoso by the age of 12, inspired by old-school punk acts like the Misfits, The Dead Kennedys, and The Ramones, and driven by her commitment of never taking no for an answer.

"When I started my career I only had $20 in my pocket," she admits that starting out wasn't easy. "I burned CDs on my laptop and sold them. I played open mics and just about anywhere that would let me. I toured up and down the west coast, by myself, with an acoustic guitar, often playing seven to ten times a week."

After high school, Wendy went on to beat out hundreds of other girls to nab the lead spot in a Nickelodeon all-girl rock band. The fearless young rock star opted for the Musicians Institute in Hollywood. Her intense energy, singing and calculated songwriting skills sent her soaring to the head of the class, earning her the opportunity to carry her Rock n Roll message to the American troops stationed overseas in Bagdad, Iraq with headlining artist, Slash.

The Fabulous Miss Wendy was the opening band supporting the show and she states that it was an honor and a blessing to tour with Slash and play for the American Troops in Iraq. "It was an amazing experience and I had a great time and would do so again in a heartbeat."

Upon returning to the United States, Wendy finished third in the World Battle of the Bands Competition and won a VH-1 Recommended Artist Award. VH-1 proceeded to use six of those tracks on two successful hit reality TV shows, "The Pick-Up Artist" and "Tough Love".

With the help of Kickstarter, Wendy was able to release her self-titled debut album. Kickstarter is an online home for everything from films, games, and music to art, design, and technology. Kickstarter is full of projects, big and small, that are brought to life through the direct support of fans. "Through this fundraising platform where you give presents to people who donate a specified amounts; my grand prize was that I write you a song." Wendy stated she wrote over 100 original songs for fans and thanks to their generous donations.

Finally, Wendy released her debut, self-titled, full length CD featuring ten outrageously provocative 21st century rocking and rolling songs in 2011. Produced by Devo's Gerald Casale, engineered by Goo Goo Dolls', Paul David Hagar, also of Avril Levine and All American Rejects fame, and driven by the fierce pounding of super-drummer, Josh Freese.

Most recently, she teamed up with legendary music producer Kim Fowley, of the Runaways, KISS, and Alice Cooper fame, to produce her third album entitled, No One Can Stop Me, where Wendy claims fans can expect some of the best songwriting she has ever done in her life.

"Kim Fowley is great!" Wendy said, "I have worked with him for a couple of years now. When they made the Runaways Movie, Kim recommended me for the part of Joan Jett in the movie. He said of all the people he has ever met in his life, I am the most like her. Sometimes he calls me Joan Jett's daughter."

With the whirlwind of amazing opportunities reaching her by the time she has reached the legal drinking age, the pink haired punk rock princess is now endorsed by GMP Guitars. Support and belief in Wendy's unbelievable talent and true uniqueness, not to mention her incredible ability create magic on stage. Touring all over the United States with recent stops at the Underground Wonderbar, 710 N. Clark Street, and The Areada Theatre, 105 E. Main Street in Saint Charles, Wendy leaves her indelible mark from her shock and awe performances.

"Emerging artists are just getting out there and making it happen," Wendy said, "It's not the way it used to be. There is no more magic record deal out of the sky that decides your future. Now, the power is in the hands of the artist."

Save money on low cost rabies vaccine and micro chip

Cook County Department of Animal Control, Kick's Off the Annual Rabies Vaccine and Microchip Mobile Clinic summer schedule.

A Low Cost Rabies Vaccine Mobile Clinic will be held Tuesday, June 4th from 10 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Hosted by Cook County Commissioner Joan Patricia Murphy at the Southwest Ice Arena Parking Lot located at 5505 W. 127th Street in Crestwood.

The remaining summer schedule is listed on Animal Control's website. Commissioner Murphy stated, "Each year this event gets bigger and more pets are served. Families are struggling and this is a positive way the County can help residents save money and receive proper care for their animals." For public safety all pets must be leashed or caged at all times.

The mobile animal clinic is for Cook County residents only. Pet owners must present a Valid Driver's License or State ID. Low cost fees for dogs, cats and ferrets of $7.00 for a 1-year rabies vaccine or $21.00 for a 3 year vaccine and $10.00 for microchip identification.

Mobile clinic service will be provided on a first-come first serve basis at various locations across Cook County. For future dates and locations see the Animal Control website at www.cookcountygov.com or call for more details 708.974.6140.

Chicago Christian joins the Metro Suburban Conference

Chicago Christian High School (Palos Heights) is pleased to announce that it has accepted the invitation to join the Metro Suburban Conference as a full member with all rights and privileges as presented in the conference Constitution and Bylaws for the 2014-2015 school year. This will expand the MSC from seven to fourteen schools and provide students with additional competitive opportunities in athletics and extracurricular activities.

For the last four years, Chicago Christian High School has been a member of the Suburban Christian Conference.

For more information contact Robert Payne, Principal, Chicago Christian High at 708.388.7656.

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27th Annual Scottish Festival and Highland Games

Presented by The CHICAGO SCOTS. Promoting Chicago's Scottish Tradition, Revelry, and Culture in a Weekend Celebration for the Entire Family!

Experience the best of Scotland without leaving Chicago at the 27th Annual Scottish Festival & Highland Games, June 14 and 15, 2013 at Hamilton Lakes in Itasca, Illinois. The festival is open to the public on Friday, June 14 from 4:00pm to 10:00pm and Saturday, June 15 from 8:00am to 9:00pm. The CHICAGO SCOTS invite everyone to be Scottish for this weekend-long annual summer celebration. Offering an extensive array of unique Scottish traditions, revelry, and culture for the whole family!

"This is the largest and best Scottish festival in the Midwest," said Gus Noble, President of the CHICAGO SCOTS. "We pride ourselves on making families feel like they've been transported to Scotland for a weekend of fun while enjoying a unique opportunity to learn more about Scottish culture."

The festival kicks off Friday, June 14 with exhibits and vendors open from 4:00pm to 10:00pm. Friday evening Highland Dance competition, Heavy Athletics, Rugby Exhibition, Friday Night Fling, crowning of the Heather Queen and Court and a Ceilidh (pronounced Kay-Lee), a lively celebration of traditional and contemporary Celtic music, from 7:00 to 10:00pm on the Celtic rock stage.

The festival continues Saturday, June 15 from 8:00am to 9:00pm and features: Champion Supreme Piping and Drumming competition; Heavy Athletics U.S. Open Championship featuring traditional Scottish contests including the Caber Toss (flipping 20-foot, 140-pound tree trunk), the 22-pound Hammer Throw, the Sheaf Toss (flipping a bale of hay over a high bar) and the Clachnert (throwing a 16-pound river stone); Highland Dance competition; Rugby Sevens Highland Challenge; Coerver Cup 3v3 youth soccer tournament; Dogs of Scotland and other animal presentations; Genealogy and cultural exhibits; Parade of Clan Tartans; Children's activities including mini golf, crafts and carnival attractions; and attendee competitions including the Kilted Mile Fun Run/Walk, British Car Show, Haggis Hurling Contest for women, Knobbly Knees contest for men, Haggis Eating Contest and Shortbread Contest. Attendees will also enjoy musical performances on the Celtic Rock Stage. Whisky tastings and seminars, traditional Scottish or American cuisine and shopping in the Celtic Marketplace. The festivities culminate with the Closing Ceremonies and Massed Bands Show, a breath-taking spectacle of 1,000 bagpipers and drummers, all joined in performing several traditional musical selections including Amazing Grace.

Friday, children 12 and under are free; Adults $12.00.

Saturday, children under 2 are free; Children ages 3 to 12 $5.00; Adults $20.00.

- Two Day Pass for children under 2 are free; Children ages 3 to 12 $5.00; Adults $30.00.

Patron Weekend Pass (Family Friendly)- $150 This two-day pass includes entry into the festival (for 2 adults & 2 children), premier seating inside the Patron Tent, complimentary food and beverages, and a private access VIP Parking Pass.

Patron Weekend Pass (21 & Over) are $100. This two-day pass includes entry for one individual into the festival, premier seating inside the Patron Tent, complimentary food and beverages (including beer - not unlimited), and a private access VIP Parking Pass.

The festival will be held at Hamilton Lakes, Itasca, Illinois which is located at I-290 and Thorndale Avenue.

Parking will be available on pavement in parking garages. Parking will be $5 per vehicle for parking on both Friday, June 14 and Saturday, June 15 or you can purchase a two-day parking pass for $8.

For more information, event schedules, competition registration forms or to purchase tickets, visit www.chicagoscots.org or call (708) 447-5092.

Village of Evergreen Park Youth Commission

Spring has sprung and the Evergreen Park Youth Dept. has teens and young adults ready to help you with your yard work. Cleaning garages and basements, and also hauling items to the dumpster. Please call 708-229-3377 for more information.

Babysitters Certification class

On Saturday, May 25, 2013 the Evergreen Park Youth Commission will be holding a "American Academy of Pediatrics" Babysitting class at the Community Center from 9:00 am to 4:00 p.m. The fee isn$45.00 per child and the class is limited to 10 pupils.

For further information call 708-229-3377.

Blue Island Park District summer camp

Summer Camp begins June 10th at the Blue Island Park District. Registrations are being taken now. Registration can be made at the Memorial Park Field House located at 12804 S. Highland Ave. Blue Island, IL.

Share the fun, share the memories, share Summer Camp.

Our highly engaging camp counselors will help make your child's summer unforgettable. Children will participate in a variety of well-rounded activities including crafts, games, sports, swimming, and field trips!

Day Camp provides families with 6 hours of fun, supervised care at Memorial Park in Blue Island. All participants will receive a lunch and will have access to the Memorial Park Pool*

All Sessions: Monday through Friday 9am till 3pm Ages: 4 to 12 years

We have three convenient sessions to choose from.

Session Dates

Session A: June 10th through June 28th, Residents, $245 (2nd child, $225). Non-Residents, $365.

Program #: 155001 M

Session B: July 1st through July 19th (No Camp on July 4th) Residents, $230 (2nd child, $215). Non-Residents, $340.

Program #: 155001 N

Session C: July 22nd through August 9th, Residents, $245 (2nd child, $225). Non-Residents, $365.

Program #: 155001 O

Artists wanted 2013 Vogt Visual Arts Center Art Show and Sale

Art Show and Sale from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, June 22

Are you an artist looking for a way to showcase your work to the public? Participate in the 5th Annual Vogt Visual Arts Center Art Show and Sale on Saturday, June 22 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The VVAC is located one half-block east of Oak Park Ave. on 174th Street.

This is a juried fine art show. Fee to be in the show is $25 per space with a six-foot table rental included, or $15 for just the space with no table rental. Deadline to register is Friday, June 14. Please either register online at tinleyparkdistrict.org or at the Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center (8125 W. 171st Street, Tinley Park). Call either the Park District office at (708) 342-4200 or Julie Dekker at (708) 309-4371 for more information about being a part of the show.

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Tom Cunningham of Orland Park is congratulated by Susan Murphy, secretary of the Moraine Valley Community College Board of Trustees.

New Moraine Valley trustee seated

Tom Cunningham of Orland Park, a Moraine Valley graduate, has returned to his community college but this time as a member of the Board of Trustees. Cunningham, who was elected to complete the last two years of an unexpired term, took his seat at the board's organizational meeting.

"It was time to move on. I needed to step up," he said. "I believe strongly in higher education. Moraine Valley like all community colleges offers kids an opportunity and will allow them to save a lot of money. I would like to continue to make the college affordable. I would like more kids to go and not be so strapped financially. Moraine Valley has always had a great reputation for being affordable and for being able to get a great education."

Before he was elected to the Moraine Valley board, he was a member of the Orland School District 135 board for eight years. During his tenure on that board, he served as a director of the Illinois Association of School Boards for five years.

Cunningham, a Realtor for RE/MAX Action, is a life-long resident of the college district, having also lived in Evergreen Park, where he helped operate the family-owned Red's hotdog stand for 47 years. He has two sons and two daughters. His sons played baseball for Robert Morris University and one of his daughters played softball for Loyola University. The other daughter is a senior at Sandburg High School in Orland Park.

He believes strongly in education, noting that his brother and sister teach in the Chicago Public Schools. "When you stop learning, you stop living. I take real estate classes every year," he said, adding that when he operated the family business, he trained hundreds of kids "on how to work. So I was a teacher just not officially."

By the Way Meet Vera Stark

by Annette Dixon

Lynn Nottage, Playwright is a graduate of Yale School of Drama and Pulitzer Prize Playwright for a winning play Ruined, which premiered at the Goodman.in 2008. Ms. Nottage is currently writing the screen adaptation for Harpo Films, Oprah Winfrey's production company, and HBO.

The setting is Hollywood 1933 and Gloria Mitchell, Kara Zediker, opens with asking Vera Stark, played by Tamberla Perry if she would get her a drink. Well not really knowing this, but Gloria Mitchell and Vera are Cousins or related in some way, yes, very close. Well it so happens ,Vera helped Gloria with her lines and yes Gloria is jealous because Vera has a great talent for remembering her lines. What we are seeing in reality is the film " The Belle of New Orleans," in which Vera Stark plays the maid.

This takes us back to the times when Black Women who were talented actors could only get roles of slaves, maids, or mammies.

Many people will remember the names, Hattie McDaniel, who was the maid in Gone With The Wind, and Ethel Waters, who held many rojes as maids and mammies, hut most of all she was the first black woman to be featured in a role other than a maid on television in the early 50's. Many woman actors were also singers and took on roles in African American Vaudeville and African Ameriean Theater in the 20's and 30's. The circuit was called TOBA, Theatre Owners Booking Association.

In 1925, Vera Stark fled to Hollywood along with a wave of talented Black Vaudeville performers from around the country in the search for work with the emerging of talking pictures. Vera Stark was from a musical and acting family hut Vera wanted roles other than what Hollywood offers black actors.

The play deals with the image of the black woman needing to work as an actor and accepting the roles given back in the 20's and 30's. As one actor stated in regards to a race call, I would rather take the part of a maid for $725 than be a maid for $2.00 or less an hour.

In the second half of the play, the playwright deals with the 70's and the onset of the new African American Woman and her role in theater and media. It becomes confusing unless you are very familiar with the intention of what the play actually represents.

By the Way, Meet Vera Stark runs until June 2 and tickets are $25 to $81 subject to change and are uvailable on Goodman-Theatre.org/Vera and by phone at 312-443-3800 or the box office, 170 North Dearborn.

Stella and Lou

by Annette Dixon

Take a trip to Skokie and visit Northlight Theater at the North Shore Center for Performing Arts. Stella and Lou has an elite cast of three. Rhea Perlman (Stella), a four time Emmy winner for her role as Carla on NBC TV show Cheers. Ms Perlman also is Danny DeVito's wife and has appeared several times with him. She is mainly on film and TV as an actress. She has seen Bruce Graham's, (Playwright), work in Ireland and was happy to work in one of his plays.

Stella comes into Lou's Bar several times a week just to talk, not really a drinker, but makes a habit of meeting with Lou, Francis Guinan), going over old times and rekindling some affection and possibly love.

Lou, on the other hand, recently beeame a widower and has a difficult time adjusting to his loss. The two kindred spirits seek solace, but have a difficult time expressing themselves to one another.

Franeis Guinan has been a member of Steppenwolf Theater Ensemble for 34 years and has appeared in over 30 productions. He's well known in Chicago and has a great following.

Ed Flynn who plays (Donny) is a graduate of Steppenwolf and lives in L.A. He's extremely humorous and loves drama. This is his first debut in Chicago.

Regular run until June 9, 2013 Tuesdays: 7:30pm (except May 21 and June 4) Wednesdays: 1:00pm (except May 22), and 7:30pm (except May 29) Thursdays: 7:30pm

Fridays: 8:00pm Sat. 2:30pm and 8:00pm; Sun. 2:30pm, and 7:00pm (May 26 and June 2 only) Tickets are $25-$72 Student tickets are $15. any performance, (suhject to availability)

The Box Office is located at 9501 Skokie Blvd, Skokie. 847.673.6300; northlight.org http://www.northlight.org/

Court Theatre launches Moliere until July 14

by Annette Dixon

Now playing The Misanthrope which is the first play of The Moliere Festival is translated by Richard Wilbur and directed by Charles Newell. Court Theatre is noted for having intellectual thought provoking theater, but with The Misanthrope, it was like being at a comedy club with a touch of Moliere.

The glue that held this play together were the two east members Erik Hellman (Alceste) and Grace Gealey (Celimene). They were the main characters in which Moliere based his story.

The Misanthrope (1666), a portrait of a man who holds the world in contempt for its social duplicity, is both exemplary of Moliere's comedie style hut also a noteworthy exeeption; darker than his other comedies, it drew material from a serious hut failed play Moliere had once written called Don Gareie de Navarre.

The Misanthrope will be performed until June 9th and the second play Tartuffe completes the Moliere Festival starting June 20th through July 14, at Court Theatre. 5535 S. Ellis Avenue in Chicago.

A devilish comedy about the art of deeeption and the price of misplaced faith.

Phillip Earl Johnson, (Tartuffe) is returning to Court Theatre having just played Gabriel Conroy in James Joyce's "The Dead" and Tom Sergeant in Skylight.

Kamal Angelo Bolden, (Damis) was most recently seen at Court Theatre as Tony in Paul Oak ley Stovall's Immediate Family.

Grace Gealey, (Mariane) recently appeared in American Theater Company's production os Rent, directed hy David Cromer. Recently Court Theatre in The Misanthrope

Erik Hellman, (Laurant) appeared in Comedy of Error, and The Misanthrope.

Allen Gilmore, (Mme Pernelle)was last seen at Court Theatre as Tumbo in Jitney and as Sizwe Banzi in Sizwe Banzi is Dead.

Elizaheth Ledo, (Basque/DuBoise/Guard previously appeared at Court in The Comedy of Errors.

Patrese D. McClain, (Elmire) previously appeared at Court Theatre in Spunk. She was recently seen in Ruined, and ABC's Detroit 1-8-7.

Michael Pogue, (Cleante) returns to Court where he previously appeared in Angels in America and Spunk.

A.C. Smith, (Orgon) makes his seventh appearance at Court Theatre. Travis Turner, (Valere) returns to Court Theatre where his eredits inelude The Gershwins Porgy and Bess, Carousel and Raisin.

Previews for Tartuffe start June 20th and regular run starts July 3. Website is www.CourtTheatre.org

Shakespeare's new production of Henry VIII

by Annette Dixon

For years I have been to Chicago Shakespeare Theater and Barhara Gaines, the director, has always given the audience their money's worth. This year she has once again directed an ineredible production which brought King Henry the VIII into a new dimension.

For example, Katherine of Aragon, the King's first wife, one out of six, comes to life and we envision her life intertwined in Henry's life. Henry fears the annulment from Rome will not take place and Katherine is upset to think Cardinal Wolsey is taking every means to get this marriage dissolved. Henry, desperately wanted a new love, Anne Boleyn, who he met at Lord Cardinal Thomas Wolsey's palace to be his second wife. It was great to see the first wife Katherine so powerful and yet so weakened after the King married Anne Boleyn.

The play was breath taking and captured the attention of the audience. Throughout the play, Scott Jaeck, who played Cardinal Wolsey held a tight reign on his role. Ora Jones, who played Katherine, did a magnificent job and I can't stop talking about her magnificent performance. So much so that the audience will remember Katherine as being Henry's first love. Gregory Wooddell, almost made me fall in love with Henry VIII, this was his debut and I hope to see him again at Chicago Shakespeare Theater.

Barbara Gaines is a genius director/artistic director. She is the founder of Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, where she has directed more than thirty of Shakespeare's plays. King Henry VIII will he playing at Chicago Shakespeare until June 16, at Navy Pier.

If you would like more information, with a detailed schedule, go to or visit www.chicagoshakes.com You can check online or call the box office at 312-595-5600

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Green Beans among world's healthiest foods

(NAPSA)-Scientists studying vegetables are finding out more about the long popular green bean. Not only do the pods contain fiber and vitamins C, K, A and B, but the latest research shows they have more antioxidants than other foods in the pea and bean families.

Registered Dietitian Tammi Hancock recommends eating fresh or frozen green beans to maximize nutritional value. "At 31 calories and plenty of nutrients per cup, they're a great choice," Hancock says.

For a tasty and nutrient-rich side dish, prepare green beans using Smart Balance(r) Butter Flavor Non-Stick Cooking Spray, a heart-healthier alternative to butter.

Baked Green Bean Fries With Chipotle Dipping Sauce

Baked Fries:

Smart Balance(r) Butter Flavor Non-Stick Cooking Spray

8 oz. fresh green beans, trimmed

1/4 cup flour

1 egg

1/4 cup Smart Balance(r) Fat Free Milk and Omega-3s

1/4 teaspoon garlic powder

1/2 teaspoon salt

1/4 teaspoon black pepper

1/8 teaspoon cayenne pepper

1 1/2 cups panko breadcrumbs

Chipotle Dipping Sauce:

1/4 cup Smart Balance(r) Omega Light Mayonnaise Dressing

2 T minced seeded chipotle peppers with adobo sauce

Preheat oven to 450 degrees. Line 2 baking sheets with foil. Spray foil with cooking spray.

Blanch green beans in boiling water for 2 minutes. Drain and immediately plunge into an ice water bath. Drain when completely cooled and dry using paper towels.

Pour flour into a large plastic bag. In a shallow dish, beat egg with milk. Mix in garlic powder, salt, black pepper and cayenne pepper. Place panko breadcrumbs in a separate shallow dish.

Drop beans in bag of flour and shake to coat. Remove beans and shake off excess flour; set aside. Pour flour remaining in bag into egg mixture and whisk until smooth. Working with about 5 beans at a time, dip beans in egg mixture, turning to coat. Remove from mixture and place onto panko crumbs, gently coating. Transfer coated beans to prepared baking sheets, arranging beans about an inch apart.

Spray top of beans lightly with cooking spray, holding can an arm's length away from the beans.

Bake in center of oven for 8-12 minutes or until panko crumbs are golden brown. Serve with Chipotle Dipping Sauce, prepared by combining mayonnaise and chipotle peppers with adobo sauce.

Yield: 6 servings; about 7 beans and 1 T Chipotle Dipping Sauce per serving.

Per serving: 100 calories, 3g protein, 14g carbohydrate, 4g fat, 0g saturated fat, 0g trans fat, 19mg cholesterol, 275mg sodium, 1g fiber, 2g sugar.

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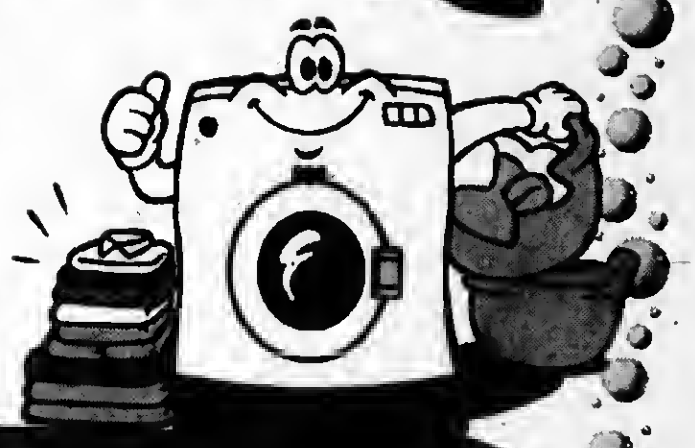

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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 39 | Number 23 | June 4, 2013

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

Illinois State Knights of Columbus Executive Secretary. Dennis Shook. presents Father Perez Knights of Columbus Council Grand Knight, Jack Ullrich with a plaque from Knights of Columbus Supreme Council. The award recognizes Perez members' sensational support of Supreme's Food for Families Program including 40 Cans for 40 Days during Lent.

40 for 40 award

Father Perez Knights of Columbus Council #1444 recently received recognition for its efforts toward the less fortunate in the community. Illinois Knights of Columbus Executive Secretary Dennis Shook presented the council with a plaque from the Supreme Council recognizing its overwhelming support of the KC food drive – 40 cans for 40 days as part of its Food for Families program. The council collected more than 1,000 pounds of canned goods that were given to St. Christina Parish food pantry.

According to Father Perez Grand Knight, Jack Ullrich, "The council is pleased to receive recognition from the Supreme Council highlighting its members' concern for their neighbors through the 40 Cans for 40 Days Program. That's a mere portion of what the council achieved throughout the 2012 – 2013 fraternal year. During the 2012 holidays, six food baskets were prepared and distributed for Thanksgiving and individual Knights' financial contributions totaling $1.000 were split between four needy families for Christmas."

Charity is one of the four core principles for the Knights. Brother Knights show love for their neighbors by conducting food drives and donating the food to local pantries and soup kitchens. There is no better way to experience love and compassion than by helping those in need.

Evergreen Park approves parade ordinance

by Matt Mayer

Officials, at the May Evergreen Park Board of Trustees meeting approved an ordinance amending a section pertaining to parades and open air meetings. A chapter which now requires a permit for parades on streets and sidewalks according to the ordinance a parade is deseribed as follows: Any march proeession or any activity which consists of persons, animals, vehieles or things, or any combination of, on any publie street, sidewalk, alley or other publie place, which requires a street closing or otherwise requires authorized village employees to stop or reroute vehicular traffic hecause the parade will not or cannot comply with normal and usual traffic regulations or controls.

No parade is permitted on any portion of the public way unless a permit is obtained from the chief of police. The permit application must be filed not less than 15 days prior to the proposed event. The chief of police will then consider an application and determine whether the event is a spontaneous response to a current event, or for other good and compelling purposes.

The application must contain a 24-hour contact telephone number. a fax number and e-mail address, if available, from the person signing the application. If one is signing on behalf of an organization, they must provide evidenee that they are authorized to do so for the organization. No parade is allowed on of 95th Street without permission and approval from the Illinois Department of Transportation.

Other highlights: The Annual 5K Run Walk is Saturday June 29 at Kline Park. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. with the event beginning at 8:30 a.m. The 25th Annual Day in the Park is Saturday, June 29 from 11:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Community Center. The 45th Annual Independence Day Parade is Wednesday July 3 at 6:30 p.m. Fireworks will commence at dusk at Duffy Park, 92nd and Millard. Vehicle sticker renewal applications will be mailed in August, the renewal date has been changed to September 15.

A request from the publie works director to sell a 2007 Dodge Charger and purchase a 2013 Chevy Tahoe was approved as well as an annual request from Thomas Powell to hlock off the alley behind 3860 W. 95th Street on Wednesday July 3 between 4:00 and 11:00 P.M. for the Independence Day Parade.

A request from Most Holy Redeemer Parish to hold their Annual Spring Carnival on Wednesday June 12 to Sunday June 16 along with a liquor license and a request from Most Holy Redeemer Parish to hold their Annual Raider Run on Thursday, Sept. 12 was approved.

Oak Lawn Mayor appoints committee members

by Matt Mayer

The May 28 Oak Lawn Board of Trustees meeting commenced with Village Clerk Jane Quinlan administering the oath of office to newly appointed Police Chief Michael Murray. The swearing in of other police department personnel are as follows: Ross Finnellly as Lieutenant: Dennis Keenan as Sergeant: Luke Sevening, Scott Peterson, Daniel Stone and Matthew Harland were sworn in as police officers.

The meeting heated up when Mayor Sandra Bury announced her committee meeting appointments. Trustees Quinlan and Streit asked Bury if she and former Trustee Tom Phelan, who worked on her campaign, had created a "hit list" of employees to be replaced. Quinlan (D-5) said, "I'm looking at the "hit list" that former Trustee Tom Phelan put together, and it's exactly the same," said Quinlan. "I would like to ask you ahout this list and your meeting with the new board members".

Bury asked what meeting she was referring to. Quinlan said," A meeting between you, Tom Phelan, Mike Carberry, Alex Olejniczak and Tim Desmond at Palermo's." Bury asked Quinlan for proof of her allegations. "Former Trustee Tom Phelan is not here today ", said Bury. "I solicited advice from every trustee at this table and information from each of you. The list was prepared after my meeting with you and I make my own decisions," said Bury.

Bury's committee assignments are as follows: Finance and Quality Control (village board will meet as a committee of the whole); Fire Department liaison- Alex Olejniczak; Special Events liaison - Tim Desmond; Legislative and License - Tim Desmond, Mike Carberry and Terry Vorderer; Technology - Tim Desmond, Alex Olejniczak, Mike Carberry; Police Department liaison - Mike Carberry; Public Works - Alex Olejniczak, Mike Carberry, and Tim Desmond.

Trustee Terry Vorderer (D-4), a retired Oak Lawn Police Division Chief, disputed Bury's appointment of Mike Carberry as police department liaison. "Mike Carberry is a qualified individual but I feel I can do a hetter joh with my 34 years of experience. I'm very disappointed, it should have been my appointment. I feel I'm in a unique situation to represent the police department. I know these were your appointments and I respect your choice of candidates," said Vorderer. Both Vorderer and Quinlan asked to be removed from the Technology Committee. Vorderer said he wasn't interested in serving on that committee.

The "hit list" that was referred to and allegedly prepared by Tom Phelan was mailed to Oak Lawn residents. Village committee/ board members who supported or didn't support Bury's mayoral campaign were listed on the color-coded hit list. Columns headed Committee/board, names, districts, address, terms (yrs), lawn sign, support, and term were in red for those who were against Bury and blue for those who were with her. The list also included advice such as "Always Reward Support" and "Immediately Replace Non Supporters with No Apologies." Trustee Boh Streit also accused Bury of secret meetings. Bury asked him for proof and denied there was a secret meeting. Streit went on to say, "So transparency and ethics were just campaign promises". Andy Skoundrianos began shouting back, at Streit and Quinlan, who called him out of order. Two police officers handcuffed and removed Skoundrianos from the council chambers. Bury and Carberry said this was unfortunate incident.

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 11 | June 4, 2013

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Former Marine immortalizes Oak Forest's fallen heroes

by Jan Glaz

Craig Miller, a former Marine who served on the Oak Forest Veterans Commission as chairman, is also the author of "Hometown Heroes" a book compiled to immortalize the lives of seven heroes hailing from the City of Oak Forest. On May 28th, at the Oak Forest City Council Meeting, Craig presented each member of the Council with a copy of "Hometown Heroes". The book, three years in the making, chronicles with facts and photos the life of each hometown veteran killed in action. Craig Miller's well documented tribute safeguards their memory: They will never to be forgotten.

At the request of Alderman Clemons a revised and updated lease agreement for operation of the Gingerwood Pool Lease Agreement with the Oak Forest South Homeowner's Association to replace the agreement previously approved by the City Council on April 21, 2011 was presented for approval and accepted by the City Council. The major substantive change provided in the revised agreement is the new provision that 'Any and all possession, use or consumption of alcohol is strictly prohibited on the premises.' The Gingerwood Pool, located at 5124 Aldersyde Road, is a wonderful and inexpensive place to enjoy the summer. The pool is open to all Oak Forest residents seven days a week from noon to 8 p.m. (weather permitting). Family memberships are available for $180 (family of 5); add up to three additional family members for $10 per person. Single membership is available for $120. Daily passes are $7. Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult. For more information, please call Gail at 708-363-2377.

Newsworthy: Before the meeting adjourned the City Council approved an Ordinance Authorizing the Sale of Surplus Equipment Personal Property Owned by the Police Department. The items are no longer needed, are technologically outdated, surplus, or have exceeded their economically useful life. The list of these items may be placed in a newspaper advertisement, posted on the City's website homepage, listed on other websites, or sold for salvage.

Tinley Park students accept honors at Village Board Meeting

by Jan Glaz

Six accomplished students accepted scholarships in the amount of $1,000 per student on May 21st at the Village of Tinley Park Board of Trustees Meeting. The Community Resources Commission sponsored the Community Service Youth Awards Presentation to students providing outstanding community service while maintaining academic excellence. Five judges received and reviewed all applications and chose the following six winners: Anna Bailey, Tinley Park High School; Gabriella Fabiano, Tinley Park High School; Michael Zwartz, Victor J. Andrew High School; Monica Tamrazi, Victor J. Andrew High School; Emily Ruzevich, Lincoln-Way North High School; Dominque Trost, Victor J. Andrew High School. Following the presentation Mayor Zabrocki said, "I also want to complement the parents there is a great deal of effort that goes into this as a parent, my compliments to you."

Tinley Park's Aviation Pace Setter, Colonel Michael T. Panarisi, received recognition when the Board of Trustees adopted a Resolution honoring his retirement from the United States Air Force and three decades of dedicated service to our country. Clerk Rea praised Panarisi's accomplishments and made reference to the great number of combat in motion hours attributed to him in virtually every single airplane. Panarisi went on to become a test pilot graduating 1st in his class and earned four Master Degrees in Avionics. Upon retirement from the Air Force he will have a full career in front of him in the field of aviation.

Newsworthy: Trustees agreed to approve entering into a Professional Services Contract with Liberty Creative Solutions for website design services related to tourism for the Tinley Park Convention Center. Trustee Seaman provided details stating that the Village budgets $100,000 annually for marketing and tourism programs. Once that money is spent the Village receives $50,000 in reimbursement from the State Tourism Bureau (total cost to the village $50,000), but due to budget cuts at the State level, the reimbursement is not being made available this year. Of the two quotes received for website design services Liberty Creative Solutions was the lowest at $15,800, the second from Rudny Designs $16,099. Liberty Solutions is located in the Village and has previous experience with the website.

Orland installs state of the art tracking system

by Jan Glaz

An expense in the amount of $5,425.00 for proximity readers met with approval at the Village of Orland Park Board of Trustees meeting held on May 5th. The Orland Park Village Staff researched proximity readers for the dog park and it was determined that the only local vendor that sells and installs the desired type of proximity reader gate access is Goldy Locks of Tinley Park. This state of the art reader will allow a card holder access through the gate at the dog park and allow village systems to track who accessed the park and when the individual visited the park. The locks are battery operated, can be tripped by card, keypad access or key. They are also able to withstand extreme hot and cold and are very durable. The system will provide access for up to 2000 users, can be programmed for desired access hours and will hold up to a 40,000 downloadable event audit. Total cost for 2 units (one for the large dog area and one for the small dog area), hardware, handheld reader, and installation is $5425.00.

A motion carried to entering into a Legal Service Agreement by and between the Village of Orland Park and Robert K. Finnell, the Bird Law Group, P.C., the Cronever Law Firm, P.C., the Clifford Law Offices and the law firm of Peterson Johnson & Murray Chicago, LLC in order to be a part of The National Online Litigation Groups, an imminent class action lawsuit to enforce the Illinois Hotel Operators' Occupation Tax Act. Presently there are more than 200 cities and counties that have sued the OnLine Travel Companies (OTC's) for lost tax revenues. The lawsuit seeks to collect tax revenues that have not been remitted to local municipalities by certain online travel companies. Specifically, companies like Priceline, Expedia and Hotels.com who purchase rooms at lower rates and then sell them to customers at higher rates, but pay the tax on the lower amount.

Children will enjoy new play unit equipment at Eagle Ridge Park, a multi-faceted park for all ages open from dawn to dusk, located at 10755 Eagle Ridge Drive. The Village Board agreed to replace the play units at a price limit of $80,000. $100,000 was budgeted. Two vendors submitted design proposals both companies were considered but Nutoys Leisure Products was recommended. Their proposal provides for the greatest variety of amenities and play pieces that fit well within the existing footprint at Eagle Ridge Park. They were also able to include handicap accessible pieces to accommodate people of all abilities. The installation of the recommended equipment will be bid separately. The funds will come from the Capital budget; the amount is approved at a cost of $78,170 from Nutoys Leisure Products. Before the meeting adjourned a landscape plan for the proposed Bonefish Grill to be located at 15537 LaGrange Road met with approval.

District 135 School Board appoints open seat

The Board of Education appointed Gregory H. Okon Sr. to the open School Board position at a Special Board meeting on May 28. The meeting included a Public Forum for the current Board Members and community to ask questions of the final five candidates. The Board voted unanimously to appoint Mr. Okon to the seat which became open April 25, 2013 upon former Board President John Carmody's resignation. After the appointment, Board President Joe LaMargo said, "The Board had a difficult time coming to its final decision because of how impressive all the applicants were. We do plan on communicating with the four other finalists in hopes they will participate in parent advisory committees."

Mr. Okon served the Village of Orland Park Police Department from 1978 to 2007 when he retired as the Commander of the Patrol Division and is currently Director of Public Safety at Palos Community Hospital. He previously served on the District 135 School Board from 2007 to 2011 and was a part of the School Safety Committee.

Village View

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SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 14 | Number 11 | June 4, 2013

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Charles Tokar new Mayor of Chicago Ridge
Eugene Siegel honorary lifetime Mayor Emeritus

by Matt Mayer

Following the recess from the regular May Chicago Ridge Board of Trustees meeting, Appellate Court Judge David Sterba administered the oath of office to newly elected Mayor Charles Tokar, newly elected Village Clerk George Schleyer, newly elected Trustees Amanda Cardin, Sally Durkin and incumbent Trustee Bruce Quintos. Tokar said when Siegel was first sworn in as mayor he placed his hand on the Bible, he said he decided to do so as well. Tokar said Gene has been a wonderful mentor and wished him all the best and many years of a healthy happy retirement. He also congratulated Trustees Bruce Quintos, Sally Durbin, Amanda Cardin and Clerk George Schleyer on their election. "I know that each of them is eager to get to work on your behalf and they all have the best interests of our residents foremost in their minds, as do I, as well as our current Trustees Jack Lind, Mike Davies and Dan Badon", said Tokar.

"We all will need to work together, the only way the village will move forward is if we all remain open to compromise. In government, whether on the local, state or national level, deadlock is what happens when our elected leaders fail to remain open to compromise", said Tokar. "We've all seen that in other municipalities, and especially in our state and on the federal level. No one wants to compromise and therefore nothing gets accomplished. I don't intend to let that happen here", said Tokar.

"Like most communities, we do face some serious challenges, but I feel we also have some great opportunities ahead of us. We will need to concentrate on things like economic development, creating jobs, community policing and using our tax dollars wisely. There is much to be accomplished, and we can accomplish much if we just work together, and not worry about who gets the plaque on the wall", said Tokar.

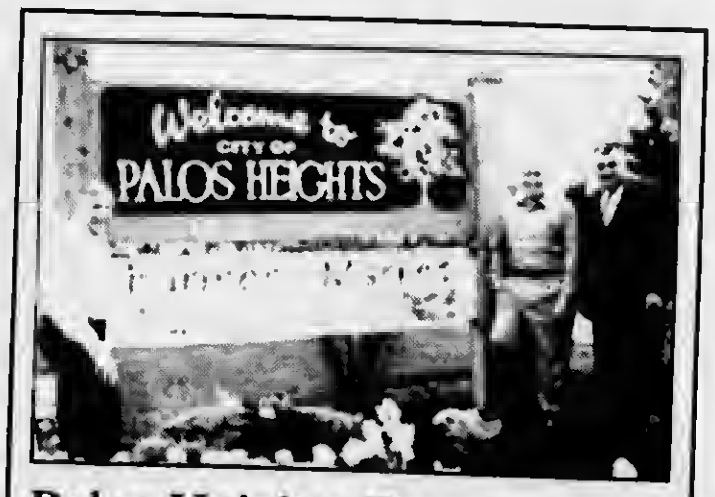
"I am very honored, as well as excited, to be serving as your Mayor for the next four years, and I pledge to you that I will do my best to keep my hometown Chicago Ridge, moving proudly into the future", said Tokar . Tokar resumed the meeting as Mayor by first recognizing Our Lady of the Ridge Men's Club request to made a presentation to Siegel. The presenter said on behalf of OLOR Men's Club, school board, and thousands of kids that you've touched in their lives, we want to thank you.

Tokar read a resolution honoring Siegel some of the highlight are as follows: Siegel has been a resident of Chicago Ridge for 57 years and has been involved in public service for the last 52 years. He was first elected as part-time Mayor in 1975 to fill an unexpired term. He was reelected in 1977, 1981, 1985, and 1989. He was elected as a full time Mayor in 1993 and continued to be reelected in 1997, 2001, 2005, 2009 and has faithfully and proudly served the residents of Chicago Ridge for the past 38 years. He was a member of the Chicago Cook County Criminal Justice Commission for six years and was only one of two Mayors in Cook County to serve in this capacity. He is a past associate of the Crisis Center for South Suburbia. He has served on they Midway Airport Task Force, the Chicago Area Transportation Study for Northwest, Illinois and was one of two Mayors representing Illinois on the National League of Cities in Washington D. C.

Siegel at the present time is serving as Vice-Chairman of the Southwest Council of Mayors and is the Legislative Chairman for the Southwest Conference of local Government. He is also a member of the Southwest Central Dispatch Executive Board of Directors and the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Executive Committee. His is currently serving as a member of the IML (Illinois Municipal League) Board of Directors and the Executive Committee.

He was elected IML first Vice President in 2003 and then elected as IML President where he served from 2004 through 2005. Since being elected he has brought tremendous growth and improvements to the village including paved streets, sewers, and streetlights, the development of the Chicago Ridge Mall in 1981 and the Commons in 1988, a full time Fire Department with paramedics, and increased Police Department services by doubling the number of officers. He established the Youth Service Bureau, the development of the Industrial Park, a state of the art Municipal Complex that houses both the Police Department and Village Administration as well as a new Fire Department and Public Works facility. He has hosted both an Annual Children's Christmas party for children and grandchildren of Chicago Ridge residents and a Senior Citizen Christmas luncheon. He has always maintained an "open door policy" for all of his constituents and employees. He has been given the honorary lifetime title of Mayor Emeritus in recognition of the many positive improvements and developments his leadership has brought to the citizens of the Village of Chicago Ridge.

The resolution was adopted and approved and signed by Mayor Charles Tokar. Siegel graciously thanked Marlene, his secretary for 38 years, his staff, and department heads, and the voters for giving him the opportunity to serve. One thing that rang loud and clear both at the board meeting and the reception honoring him is Siegel loves Chicago Ridge. He will be missed by both staff and residents, however he has left his position in experienced competent hands.



Palos Heights Farmers Market

Located at the Palos Heights Municipal Parking Lot, 122nd & Harlem Ave., every Wednesday thru October from 7:00 am to 1:00 pm rain or shine!

The 2013 season includes:

Lyons Fruit Farm, Growers Outlet, Hiemenz Nursery, Stmaper Cheese Co., Katie Breads, Nature's Resources (Shaklee products), Super Sharp Sharpening Services, Parmesan's Wood Stone Pizza, Yoder's Bakery, The Olive Tap, The Pampered Chef, Simply Salsa, Zeldenrust Farm, Richert/Phillips Farms, and Windy Hill Farms (beef).

Looking for vendors, call Anne Girzadas, Market Manager at (708) 203-6631, or email agirzadas@comcast.net.

Worth Mayor makes several appointments

by Matt Mayer

Mayor Mary Werner at the brief May 21 Worth Board of Trustees meeting made the following appointments: Village Attorney: Ancel, Glink, Diamond, Bush, DiCanni and Krafthefer; Village Engineer, Robinson Engineering; Police Chief Martin Knolmayer; and Public Works Superintendent Wayne Demonbreun at the previous board meeting. Werner appointed Warren Soldan to fill her trustee seat, which she held for 2 years

Soldan has resided in the village sine 1965. Prior to his retirement he was civil defense volunteer and also worked at Navistar as a machinery repairman. He also worked in the computer programming department for machines. "I also gained experience working with the Melrose Park village government on property sales and permits", said Soldan.

Other highlights: The board approved the following expenditures for Worth Days: a contract with Hat Guys Band for $1,750.00, Infinity for $3,500.00, Cummings N Power for $4,361.06 for generators. A request from Marrs Meyer American Legion Post for an outdoor music fest on June 15, July 13 and August 17 from 7-11 p.m. was approved as well as a request from Marrs Meyer to serve liquor outside for a member picnic on June 30. A request from Blue Cap to conduct their Tag Days on August 23 and 24 was also approved.

Village View

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B-MAC EDITION

Volume 7 | Number 11 | June 4, 2013

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Alsip improves service to residents

by Jan Glaz

An apology to Alsip Trustee McGreal: The May 21st issue of the Village View incorrectly stated that Sheila B. McGreal is no longer serving as Trustee. In fact Trustee McGreal, elected in 2011, is serving until 2015. McGreal's farewell message was in regard to her pleasure to serve with outgoing Trustee Daddona.

Public frustration in regards to length of time required for the smooth and prompt handling of affairs, plus the expected increase in clerical work due to the summer season, prompted action by the Clerk's Office to request adding onto the village payroll. After a discussion in regards to need, procedure and the labor union, the Board of Trustees unanimously agreed to a request to hire one full time temporary clerical person for the summer at the Village of Alsip Board of Trustees Meeting held on May 20th. During the meeting a spokesperson from the Clerk's office reported that over the past couple of years the existing staff accomplished their tasks under duress and noted that it does affect residents, especially during the summer. Clerk Deborah Venhuizen agreed and stated that support of the Board of Trustees was needed to accomplish the goal of prompt service to all citizens. Mayor Kitching joined the conversation commenting that the state legislator had added to the clerk's work load. "We can have one person who did nothing but that but we don't, and we should." said Kitching, prior to the issue receiving a positive vote. In another motion, the Village Properties Department received board approval to hire six part time temporary employees for the summer season. Trustees also agreed that the village can advertise for the position of Director of Fire Prevention. Fire Chief Thomas Styczynski said that he would like that person to be hired by July. "The sooner the better."

Trustee Shapiro announced a request that the board approved for St. Terrence to host a parish wide garage sale on Saturday, June 8th, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.. Shapiro also made a motion for an item that had been tabled at the April 15th Board Meeting and the board granted permission at this session for FJ Development Corporation to start working on the foundation and shell for the Advance Auto Parts Building located at 11500 S. Pulaski. Before the meeting adjourned an Ordinance authorizing the sale of personal property owned by the Village of Alsip: five file cabinets that the Police Department made a request to dispose of, met with approval.

Village Attorney given temporary status in Midlothian

by Jan Glaz

Cost per hour became an issue of discussion after Mayor Sharon Rybak introduced a motion to temporarily appoint the law firm of Sraga Hauser, LLC, at the May 22nd Village of Midlothian Board of Trustees Meeting. Mayor Rybak stated the temporary status approval is necessary because she is in the process of interviewing other law firms that had submitted proposals. Attorney William F. Gleason, of Hauser's Flossmoor Office, was present to answer questions posed by Trustees in regard to fees and services. The fee is $200 per hour and add-ons are kept to a minimum. Gleason said all clients are charged the same fee and they all receive quality service which eliminates a conflict of interest such as more time being spent with a client who is paying a higher fee. Trustee Kreis responded that the Village of Midlothian had never paid that amount of money. Kreis said the Village paid the prior attorney $150 per hour. Ryhak said she doesn't plan to use a law firm regularly, only on an as-need basis, also. Hauser is favorable because the firm has every type of lawyer the Village may need, whether a TIF lawyer, ordinance lawyer, negotiation lawyer etc. In closing, Gleason added, "There are many firms that will charge you one rate to talk to them, one rate for an ordinance, one to go into litigation... They tack things onto the bill or take longer to do a job. I don't have to do that, my rate is sufficient to cover what I have to do."

The appointment of Firefighter Scott Taylor to Probationary Firefighter met with approval by the Board of Trustees and the Village recognized Firefighter, Timothy Forrest, an Emergency Medical Technician/Paramedic for his participation in Emergency Medical Services for 25 years, and Deputy Chief Mager, for 20 years.

Before the meeting adjourned a motion was granted to authorize a Class 8 status with Brigham Construction (U-Stor It of Midlothian, LLC). This ordinance approval is the first step for Brigham to deposit it to the Assessor's Office. A Class 8 is a tax incentive program designed to encourage development of industrial and commercial properties within certain defined areas of Cook County which are experiencing severe economic stagnation. If the property is found to qualify, it will be assessed at 10% during the first 10 years, 15% during the 11th year and 20% during the 12th year

Blue Island events

Progressive Garden Tea, Sunday, June 16, 1 to 4 p.m., $20 at the Blue Island gardens.

The Blue Island Historical Society is featuring two gardens and they are looking for two more. Call 708-371-8546 to attend the walk or show off your garden. Reservations required.

TGIF Picnic, Friday, June 7, 11 to 2 p.m. at the MetroSouth Park, corner of York & Western Ave.

The popular picnics are back and each week features a farmers market. Enjoy entertainment by Mexico En La Piel (Mexican Folklore Dancers), music by the Salcedo Brothers, and food by Café Metro.

Battlefield embalming during the Civil War, Tuesday, June 25, 7:00 p.m. at Krueger Funeral Home, 13050 S. Greenwood Ave.

Jon Austin, historian, museum and cemetery director and History Channel 'Guest Expert' on Civil War funeral practices portrays "Dr. Ben Lyford," a Civil War medical officer, to explain how advances in mortuary science made it more possible for fallen Civil War troops to receive more respectful treatment. He will also discuss the mourning rituals of the era and the Lincoln funeral. Suitable for general audiences. Tickets are required and are free at the Library's Main Desk. Call 708-388-1078 x30.

High Tea attendees enjoy a delightful afternoon of fun, food and fashion.

Two Local Non-Profits to Host High Tea Event

It's tea time Ladies!

Make your reservations now and enjoy a delightful afternoon of fun, food and fashion. Sertoma Centre, Inc. and Sertoma Speech and Hearing Center are hosting this unique event on Wednesday, June 5 at Crystal Tree Country Club in Orland Park, IL at 11 am. Tickets are $40 per person and include a traditional high tea, music, raffles, a fashion show by Kimberly Bond Boutique and a presentation on women's healthy lifestyle, by Dr. Marie Tholl of the Centre for Integrated Medicine.

Proceeds support the non-profit missions of Sertoma Centre, Inc. and of Sertoma Speech & Hearing Center. To make reservations please visit www.sertomacenter.org or call 708-599-9500.

City of Hickory Hills steps up Police action

by Jan Glaz

Criminal elements will have a hard time having a high time in the City of Hickory Hills. At the commencement of the City Council Meeting, in May, Hickory Hills Police Chief, Alan Vodicka, presented a zero tolerance strategy against illegal activities that will be enforced to the fullest extent of the law. Mayor Howley explained that spurred on by a drive-by shooting that recently occurred at 8656 W. 87th Street (charges will soon be filed in that matter) and in response to complaints of disruptive acts, misconduct and violence occurring at various apartment complexes all Elected Officials, Ordinance Officers, the Building Commission and the Police Department have joined forces to keep the city's neighborhoods safe and to maintain a quality of life for residents. The strategy Police Vodicka outlined includes an increased presence and visibility of marked patrol officers and unmarked detective units to circumvent any adverse activities contemplated by individuals and to enforce the public nuance property ordinance. Property owners will be held responsible and fines will be issued from $500 to $1000. Apartment building owners will be asked to cooperate in regards to in-house checks for individuals with numerous arrests and to parking agreements which will give police authority to take action on parked vehicles. "This is a strong first step, we're not going to mess around with wrong behavior," said the Mayor.

Endnote: The City Budget and Appropriation Ordinance 2013-2014 received a positive vote after a Public Hearing and Treasurer Dan Schramm reported good news about the April 30th fiscal year end. The City had $200,000 less in operating expenses. Also, in the General Fund the utility tax did not have to transfer to the General Fund the $600,000, which was budgeted to offset some of the operating budget. Schramm explained the State Income Tax Revenue had accelerated a five months delay in payment to four months, giving the city an extra payment, and then on the last day. April 30th, the State issued the City of Hickory Hills another large state income tax government receipt. "Although the State is still behind, last year we had 14 state income tax payments that accounted for approximately an additional $400,000 of revenue," said Schramm. Before the meeting adjourned the Board of Trustees supported a favorable motion to suspend committee meetings through the months of June thru September.

Palos Heights approves construction expenditures and projects

by Matt Mayer

Officials at the brief May Palos Heights City Council meeting approved the following roads and construction expenditures and projects: A retain age amount of $10,000.00 to Brothers Asphalt for the 2012 Road Project: Illinois Department of Transportation [IDOT] amount of $41,796.97 for the project cost sharing reimbursement for the Harlem Avenue lighting project: a payment to IDOT of $61,193.97 for a project cost sharing reimbursement for the Ishnala traffic signal project. The city's share will be reimbursed by Jewel-Osco.

A motion to authorize Morris Engineering to advertise for bids for various sections of sidewalk along Harlem Avenue from Rt. 83 to 127th Street was approved, as well as a motion to approve a contract with Crest and Sons Concrete to remove and replace two sections of the pool decking, totaling approximately 1500 sq ft. for an amount not to exceed $15,965.00.

A request from St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church to conduct their Annual Greek Festival on July 6 and 7 was approved. The special event application has been reviewed and approved by the police, public works, and building departments and Mayor Robert Straz. A special event liquor license for the event was also approved.

Hard work pays off in Justice

by Jan Glaz

"We have found ourselves, certainly through hard work, where we are comfortable in purchasing equipment for the Village," stated Trustee Ed Rusch Jr. at the May 28th Village of Justice President and Board of Trustees Meeting. Rusch addressed officials and requested the Board's approval of an Ordinance of the Village of Justice, Cook County, Illinois Authorizing a $272,116.00 Installment Agreement with Municipal Funding Solutions LLC for the Purchase of a Dump Truck, Trailer, Sewer Cleaner, and Milling Machine. Rusch disclosed that it is a 7 year lease with a 2.49% rate of interest and it fits the budget well, also at any point the Village can choose to double up payments as the lease has a five year option. The Ordinance accepted a unanimous vote. The Village has taken delivery of two new squad cars purchased with funds generated by the police department and at no cost to the residents. Trustee Melanie Kuban requested and received approval for of an Ordinance Authorizing the Sale of Two Ford Crown Victoria Motor Vehicles, in light of the acquisition.

On the Grant front, Trustee Rick Symonds introduced a motion approved by the council authorizing application for a Tiger II USDOT Grant. The USDOT (United States Department of Transportation) reported Tiger Grant money can be used to fund up to 80% of a project's total cost. Grants will range from $10 million to $200 million to fund eligible projects, which include highways and bridges; public transit; passenger and freight rail; intermodal facilities; and marine and port investments. According to the USDOT, at least $120 million of the $474 million must be awarded to projects in rural areas.

Endnote: Trustee Henry Oszakiewski brought forth a motion that carried for the Business License of All-in-one Expert Appliance Repair doing business at 8646 S. Roberts Road, Suite 101A.

Community Yard Sale in Blue Island

The Blue Island Park District is having a Community Yard Sale at 12804 Highland Ave. in Memorial Park on Saturday, June 8th, 2013 from 9 a.m to 3 p.m. Spaces are available to sellers or vendors, the booths are for $15.

If interested contact us at (708) 385-3304 or visit our website at www.blueislandparks.org.

Something for everyone. Free Admission.

Mayor Eugene Siegel presided over his final board meeting

by Matt Mayer

The popular Mayor Gene Siegel, whose name became synonymous with Chicago Ridge over the past 38 years, presided over his final Chicago Ridge Board of Trustees meeting in May. Siegel decided not to seek another term. The meeting commenced with Siegel requesting Father Wayne Svida to say a prayer. Siegel made the following presentations: a trophy to Eagle Scout Nicholas Kieslowski in recognition of his dedicated hard work in achieving the rank of Eagle Scout; an award and a Movado watch to Janet Becker in appreciation for her many years of service as Treasurer and as a member of the Police and Fire Pension board; an award to Mary Waitches, honoring her late husband William "Bill" Demchuck, who was Chicago Ridge's first mail carrier and a volunteer fireman. Julie Wollner who served for 19 years as a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission was present to receive her award.

"We were going to start a program here in Chicago Ridge honoring the first chief of police, first fire chief, first mayor, and our first mail carrier, however we did not do it. We're starting now - we're going to put them on a plaque and hopefully we will be able to display these in the library historical room", said Siegel.

Other highlights the board approved a tuition reimbursement of $1,000 for Firefighter/Paramedic Brieker as well as a fire department request to repair a tower ladder in an amount not to exceed $7,500. Trustee Bruce Quintos announced that this is the 12th year that the Chicago Ridge Police Department is participating in a "Torch Run". The ceremony will commence at 7 a.m. and the event will begin at 7:15. The torch will be carried from Chicago Ridge, passing it to Palos Heights at Rt 83 and Harlem Avenue. The torch will then continue to Will County where it will be passed from police department to police department. The main goal is to raise money for the Special Olympics, said Quintos.

"This year we will be running in memory of Illinois State Trooper James Sauder", said Quintos. "Everyone is invited to run with us. If you want to run the full 13 miles to the Will County border or only a half a block, we welcome you. We will have cars along the way - if you want to go a couple of blocks or so, the police chief will provide transportation back to the police station", said Quintos. The meeting recessed for the swearing in of elected officials.

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We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

2013 Cook County vehicle stickers available

The 2013 Cook County vehicle stickers for residents of unincorporated Palos Township is available for purchase at the Township office, 10802 S. Roberts Road, Palos Hills. All residents in unincorporated Cook County must purchase a sticker for every vehicle in the household, including those that are kept in a garage.

Stickers must he purchased and displayed hy July 1, 2013. All Cook County Vehicle Stickers must he purchased with a check, money order, or a cashier's check. Cash payment, credit cards and debit cards will not be accepted. Stickers can also be purchased online at www.cookcountyil.gov/revenue.

If residents purchase the stickers after July 1, 2013, the resident must pay a penalty which is double the sticker fee in most cases.

Kids Can Not Buy Them Here Program

The Oak Forest Police Department conducted its third and final round of the 2012-13 "Kids Can't Buy Them Here" tobacco compliance survey at various retailers recently, within the City of Oak Forest. The purpose of the K.C.B.T.H. program is to determine which businesses may be selling tobacco products to minors (persons under 18 years of age) within the city.

A total of 22 locations were surveyed within the city limits of Oak Forest, IL. The compliance checks resulted in two citations being issued for selling tobacco products to minors. The two locations are the Phillips 66 located at 15229 S. Cicero Ave and Shell Gas Station located at 16702 S. Cicero Ave.

The following business and clerks are to be commended for taking a proactive approach in identifying minors under the age of 18 by not selling tobacco products to them:

Jewel Foods, Circle K, Osco Drug Store, Eddy's Liquor & Tobacco, Shell Gas Station, 159th St., Convenient Food Mart, 7-11, Central Ave., Foremost Liquors, Food 4 Less, BP Amoco Gas Station, Swagat Foods, Walgreens, Citgo Gas Station, CVS Pharmacy, Rose Liquors, Taps Pub, Mobile Gas Station, 7-11, 167th St., Stop and Go, and Marathon Gas Station, Harlem Ave.

Tobacco compliance surveys are funded through a grant from the Illinois Liquor Control Commission. Each retailer who is found in violation of the can be fined from $200.00 up to $500.00. The public is reminded that the charges are merely accusations and all defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty.

Supervisor Paul O'Grady launches second term

O'Grady Takes Oath of Office, Renewing His Work for Initiatives Supporting & Enhancing Lives of Orland Township Citizens

Paul O'Grady has commenced his second term as Supervisor of Orland Township, redoubling his efforts to improve the availability and quality of Township services while managing the Township's finances responsibly.

O'Grady swore his oath of office before Judge Brian K. Flaherty while his wife Debbie and sons Colin and Conner stood by together with other family, elected officials, friends, and supporters.

"I'm humbled and honored for the exceptional support my administration has enjoyed over the last four years, and I'm thrilled to continue our work through my second term," O'Grady said. "We are demonstrating every day that there is a way to do government right and to be of real service to the taxpayers that make it possible."

O'Grady won his first four-year term in April 2009 and was re-elected this spring. With the help of a talented staff and dedicated Township Board, he has championed investment in children and youth while promoting initiatives that strengthen families, embrace the senior population, and build the local work force.

O'Grady is a passionate advocate for senior citizens. From dancing and singing competitions to health screenings and wellness fairs, he has focused the Township's resources on creating and implementing meaningful programming and social opportunities for older adults.

O'Grady accomplished all of this without raising taxes and still maintaining a budget surplus. Under his leadership, Orland Township is more responsive and transparent. He pushed to make available online information about the Township's financial condition, budget and expenditures, so that taxpayers may evaluate for themselves whether or not their elected officials are providing responsible fiscal stewardship.

During these challenging economic times, O'Grady worked to help unemployed citizens get back to work by implementing resume writing and interviewing workshops, job fairs and other back-to-work programs.

O'Grady is president of the Orland Township Scholarship Foundation and, in that capacity, has awarded more than $65,000 in scholarship funds to local students based upon grade point average, leadership skills, community service participation, extracurricular activities, recommendations and a response to an essay question.

Second Hand Treasures giant Garage Sale

Annual Giant Garage Sale Scheduled for Saturday, June 8.

One man's junk is another man's treasure. The Tinley Park-Park District's annual Giant Garage Sale will be held on Saturday, June 8 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center Parking Lot, 8125 W. 171st Street, Tinley Park.

Admission is free, and over 50 exhibitors have registered to sell their spring cleaning fallout in the great tradition of the garage sale. This event will be held rain or shine. For more information, please call the Tinley Park-Park District at (708) 342-4200 or visit their web site at www.tinleyparkdistrict.org.

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Georgia Sarlas (left) and Zoe Skopec making delectable loukoumades (fried dough balls drizzled with honey and cinnamon)

St. Nicholas Greek Food Festival

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St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church 10301 S. Kolmar Ave., Oak Lawn, IL.

Hours of the festival, Saturday, June 15th, 4:00 to 11:00 pm; Sunday, June 16th, 3:00 to 10:00 pm.

Admission $2 (children 12 and under free). For more information, contact the church office at 708- 636-5460. Or visit our website at www.stnicholasil.org.

Orland Township 3rd Annual Pet-palooza

Orland Township is pleased to announce the third annual Pet-palooza parade, fair and fundraiser will take place from noon to 3 p.m. on Saturday, June 15 on the grounds of Orland Township, 14807 S. Ravinia Ave.

This event, which is expected to attract hundreds of local residents accompanied by their pets, will feature:

- A fun-filled afternoon for pets – and the entire family
- Companion animals from P.A.W.S. in need of "forever homes"
- Exhibitors and food vendors with treats for humans and pets
- Kid zone with Castle Moon Jump, games, prizes and more
- Trackless train rides, face painting and clowns
- Microchipping and nail clipping by the Animal Welfare League
- Appearances from Chicago sports mascots Southpaw, Staley Da Bear and Tommy Hawk

All proceeds benefit Orland Township's Pet Pantry, which provides food and supplies for pets and families in need. Admission is free, but attendees are encouraged to bring a five-pound bag of dog food or cash donation for the Pet Pantry.

Well-mannered, leashed and tagged pets are welcome.

"This is a great outing, especially for families with children – and on top of that, we raise a great deal of money for a wonderful cause," said Orland Township Supervisor Paul O'Grady. "We appreciate all of the support that we receive from community businesses and organizations. We could not do it without their generous assistance."

For more information, call Bill Brady at 708-403-4222 or visit orlandtwp.org.

New equipment allows firefighters to provide more immediate care

The Oak Forest Fire Department recently added Advanced Life Support (ALS) equipment to its fire engine – giving its firefighters the tools they need to begin lifesaving treatment when an ambulance is not readily available.

"When we are in a multiple call situation and we do not have an ambulance that can respond, we can begin lifesaving treatment right away instead of waiting for an ambulance from another community to arrive on scene," said Fire Chief Terry Lipinski. "Those extra minutes can sometimes be critical to a patient."

The ALS equipment allows firefighters to provide drug therapy and fluid therapy intravenously as well as advanced airway supplementation and cardiac shock therapy while waiting for an ambulance to arrive.

"All of our firefighters are trained and licensed paramedics," Lipinski added. "The additional equipment allows them to provide more immediate care to our residents."

The engine has been inspected by the Illinois Department of Health and Ingalls Emergency Medical Services Department to ensure it meets both groups' equipment requirements.

Palos Park Public Library Book and Film Series

The Book & Film Series returns to the Palos Park Public Library on Wednesday, June 12th at 2 p.m. with the film Lincoln based on the book "Team of Rivals" by Pulitzer Prize winning author Doris Kearns Goodwin. The film directed by Steven Spielberg features Daniel Day-Lewis in his Oscar winning role as the much beleaguered President in the final four months of his life. Runtime 150 minutes.

This program is free and open to the public. All who attend will be entered in a raffle to win a free copy of the book. Didn't read the book? Come out anyway! Join us to judge a book by its movie. The library is located at 12330 Forest Glen Boulevard. Call the library to register at (708) 448-1530, or for more information, visit the library online at www.palosparklibrary.org.

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Sat. Aug. 10: Steakfry & Crayfish Sampling, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., Call to RSVP by Aug. 3 to the hotline
Sun. Sept. 8: 34th Annual Scandinavian Day Festival, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Adults $10.00, Children 12 & Under Free * FREE Parking * Rain or Shine * *Featuring Special Entertainment for 2013: ABBA Salute*
Sat. Oct. 5: 13th Annual Fish Boil & Harvest Festival, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Boil at 2 p.m. serving immediately. A great time is planned with music and entertainment. RSVP by Oct. 1 to the hotline

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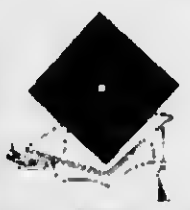

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ELIM

Wine and dine right in the neighborhood

by Kelly White

If you are looking for a night out with excellent food and great wines, Cooper's Hawk provides the perfect solution with a combination of a Michigan-style wine tasting room along with a downtown Chicago atmosphere bar and dining area, leaving guests intrigued and keeping them coming back for more.

After four years of planning and construction, Cooper's Hawk Winery & Restaurant opened in 2005 in Orland Park, a south suburb of Chicago, at 15690 S. Harlem Avenue. The concept was unique. The Executive Chef would create a signature menu with a selection of dishes designed to pair perfectly with our own Cooper's Hawk wines, made in their own private winery. With sophisticated food and exceptional wines, their concept was born, and since then Cooper's Hawk has received over 200 wine awards from various local, national and international wine competitions.

Cooper's Hawk Executive Chef, Valerie Badon, began working with the Orland Park restaurant as their Pastry Chef before being promoted onto the position of Executive Chef earlier this month.

The Cooper's Hawk concept includes four distinct components: an upscale casual dining restaurant, full-service bar, private barrel-aging room, and Napa-style tasting room and retail gift store, all under one roof. Each of the six Illinois-based Cooper's Hawk locations are distinctive in their layout and décor, but carries the same warmth and elegance that guests have come to expect.

The Cooper's Hawk Winery produces over 125,000 gallons of wine each year, handcrafted from only the finest grapes and fruit available. Trucks packed with up to 20 tons of wine grapes from California, Washington, Oregon and other grape-growing regions around the country are transported straight from the vineyard to our winery to begin the delicate winemaking process.

Cooper's Hawk benefits from not owning their own vineyard or buying from one large supplier. They are selective and buying the very best fruits from areas where seasonal conditions have resulted in the year's most outstanding varietals, giving them the ability to consistently produce-award winning wines.

The Cooper's Hawk menu offers a wide array of salads, seafood, beef and pork, and chicken specialties, including Dana's Parmesan Crusted Chicken, chicken breast crusted with Japanese bread crumbs and grated parmesan, served with garlic spinach, Betty's Potatoes, tomato basil relish, and lemon butter.

Coopers Hawks chefs use fresh herbs daily, never any dried herbs while preparing each of their delicious menu items.

Burgers and sandwiches are also available all day long, including the Southwest Chicken Sandwich, a common lunch favorite made with a chicken breast topped with shredded lettuce, pico de gallo, guacamole, pepperjack cheese, chipotle mayo, and jalapeño bacon.

Cooper's Hawk offers variety in their menu with a Gluten Free menu and a Life Balance Menu with each dish served less than 600 calories and designed to accommodate our guests looking to enjoy mindful portions when dining out. For only 429 calories, guests can enjoy Life Balanced Grilled Tenderloin Medallions, beef tenderloin medallions lightly seasoned with ancho chili and garlic, served with oven-roasted cauliflower, asparagus and sweet grape tomatoes.

For clientele with a sweet tooth, the restaurant has plenty of desserts to choose from, including truffles and chocolate covered strawberries. All desserts and meals are listed with suggested wine pairing inside of the Cooper's Hawk menu.

Besides preparing exceptional foods for their guests, Cooper's Hawk chefs have partnered with Moraine Valley Community College to bring cooking classes such as, Food and Wine 101 as well as Cooking with Wine to Orland Park. The non-credit classes are offered through the college's Personal Development Courses and Services and offer the students an opportunity for a taste of dishes prepared and served with wines brewed at the restaurant.

When preparing her shrimp scampi with mushrooms and artichokes, Badon adds color to the dish by adding fresh tomatoes afterwards instead of cooking them with the meal. They will taste much fresher when they are added later.

Commended not only for great food, but great service, Cooper's Hawk is strongly recommended by customers. "I've eaten here several times, and I will definitely keep coming back," Andrew Bruce, 25, Chicago Ridge, said while picking out a bottle of wine from the restaurant gift shop after his dining experience. "My girlfriend loves wine, so we will come for the wine tasting, which is very reasonably priced and then we stay for dinner. The portion sizes are huge. I can't think of any restaurant comparable. If you haven't tried it yet, you're missing out!"

Vacation Bible School

Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church, 8426 W. 95th Street, Hickory Hills, IL will hold Vacation Bible School, June 10 threw 14, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. This year's program is titled, "Colossal Coaster World- Facing Fear, Trusting God." The week will be filled with exciting Bible stories, crafts, music, refreshments and recreation. We welcome Tricia and Company as our special guests. This program is open to all children age 4 through grade 6.

To register for this program or to receive more information please contact Dianne at the Church office 708-598-3100.

Father's Day celebration

Sing, Swing, and Dance! Featuring Ron & Sandi, the girl full of wonder and her friend from down under! Ron & Sandi's shows include covers of songs sung by Patsy Cline, Anne Murray, Natalie Cole, Julie London, Rosemary Clooney and Doris Day. Together they make beautiful music come alive! The Louis S. Viverito Senior Center located at 7745 S. Leamington in Burbank will be hosting a Ron & Sandi for the Father's Day Party on Thursday, June 13, 2013. The party begins at 9:30 a.m. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. To register for the party please call (708) 636-8850.

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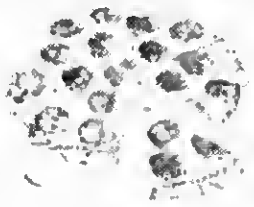
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Oak Lawn Park District's Star Spangled Fourth of July

The Oak Lawn Park District's Annual Star Spangled Fourth of July Celebration will be held Thursday, July 4, at Centennial Park, located at 94th and Nashville Avenue.

The day will begin with a variety of family activities from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm that includes: concessions, Oak Lawn's Got Talent, a treasure hunt, obstacle course, kids tattoos, carnivals games, pony rides, inflatables, bingo, crafts, and much more!

A fee of $5 per child (ages 3 and up) will allow for participation in all daytime activities. Adults are free. Admission to all pools is only $2.

Free evening entertainment will be held at the football field at Richards High School (106th Street and Central Avenue). Gates will open at 6:00 pm. Dave Rudolf will take the stage at 8:15 pm followed by a spectacular fireworks display that is cosponsored by the Village of Oak Lawn.

An agenda of all activities and times will be available soon at www.olparks.com.

For more information, please call 708-857-2200.

Moraine Valley to host Movie in the Moonlight

Moraine Valley Community College will host Movie in the Moonlight on Saturday, June 22, at 8:30 p.m. Disney's "Wreck-It-Ralph" will be shown on a 16-foot inflatable screen on the Gateway, between Buildings F and M, on campus, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills. The event is free.

Bring your own blanket, chairs and food, or purchase snacks from a concession stand. Alcohol is not allowed on Moraine Valley's campus. In the event of inclement weather, the movie will be shown in the Moraine Rooms in Building M. The movie is subject to change.

For more information about Movie in the Moonlight, call the College and Community Relations Office at (708) 974-5375.

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A look into Ann Arbor Hands On Museum

by Annette Dixon

On 220 East Ann Street which was an original Fire Station from 1882, now stands a four floor Hands On Science Museum for people of all ages. In conjunction with the University of Michigan, their engineering 450 class designed a View Space NASA exhibit including a Hubble and James Webb telescopes.

"There are rooms designed for special classes in which students of all ages would learn about various elements of science," says Carol Knauss, Director of Operations. Within the classes students are given their own boxes of material to use." Mrs. Knauss showed many exhibits in which each person would receive help from assistants if one would need help. This is a family museum and it was wonderful watching parents building forts with large blocks.

At the mezzanine level there are exhibits that are for infants and preschool, everyone is invited but they must have a badge in order to be a sibling helper. The exhibit on other floors are for children 10 years of age and under. That doesn't mean that Hands On Museum doesn't have exhibits for 10 and over but on the second floor, there is a climbing wall, a designer house is in the process of being built but looking for some children to come in and help build it. This exhibit teaches about the trades: plumbing, electricity, construction, engineering, carpentry.

There is an exhibit on magnetic fields with an experiment in using WD40 fluid and nan-no size particles that react to show the magnetic field process, it's called Ferro Fluid.

Another exhibit for 10 year old and older is a teaching apparatus for future mechanical engineers. There are tiny sensors at the pivot point that gives out a feedback that sends an arrow moving. You have to see it to believe it. The University of Michigan in cooperation with Ann Arbor Hands On Museum, accepted the help of mechanical engineering students from class 450 for this project. Another great exhibit, are traffic signals which are mechanically operated with the help of a person.

Yes, you also can see real live bees working their honey cones by entering and exiting the building and producing honey in their hives. Did you hear the concept from 1893 called Tesla's Egg of Columbus. Come and find out how this one works. There is also a 3rd and 4th floor. An ideal situation that brings generations together is a room designated for story telling. You will love this room with a store, it is equipped with antiques that will bring many questions for grandparents. Look for the exhibit of Recollections by Ed Tannenbaum, you will be amazed.

The two exhibits worth mentioning on the 3rd floor is the Shadow Wall and seeing colors assigned to your shadow. It's all about light and optic and will give a good lesson to everyone. On the 4th floor, there is a wall with a reflective surface that allows captured images to pixalate and bring images you wish you could capture with a video and impress your friends and family. It's colorful and animated to give a whole new perspective into your dance or just give you a lift.

In order to give more indepth focus on what is involved within the galleries, you can go online and visit www.aahom.org or call 734-995-5439. If you are a member of Field Museum in Chicago, you can use your Field Membership for Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum for free admission.

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School officials taking a stand to stop heroin use among high school students

by Kelly White

An increase in heroin use taking place in local high schools on the city's southside has lead District 230 and Palos Hills city officials to speak on prevention programs.

Heroin has become increasingly popular among high school students taking on the form of a "party drug" according to the Palos Hills Police Department. The ability of users to snort, smoke or inject the drug has contributed to its rise. The drug is most commonly being distributed in powder form, according to Palos Hills Police Chief Paul Madigan. This trend started about two to three years ago.

"This is something we haven't seen in a while, however, it's cheaper and more easily accessible to our young people," he said. "And, the problem with the powder form of heroin is that more of it is often needed in order to get high than the injected form, so these young people are taking a lot more than they should be and overdosing." The powder form of heroin is 80 percent pure on average and sells for $20-$25 dollars for a small bag, making the drug more affordable for high school students.

Within the past year, there have been three heroin related deaths in Palos Hills, ranging from 19-36 years old. Madigan stated the common usage age is among high school students but the drug is not strictly limited to that particular age group.

Palos Heights Deputy Chief Bill Czajkowski said that in the last year the department has responded to four or five heroin overdoses. Those calls received were not all teenagers however, Czajkowski said.

This is not the first time District 230, including both Amos Alonzo Stagg High School, 8015 W. 111th Street, and Carl Sandburg High School, 13300 S. La Grange Road, has been scrutinized for heroin usage among high school students. Following recent overdose cases where heroin was involved in January 2012, district administrators sent a letter to parents asking for their help and awareness, informing them of "... disturbing stories about dangerous and sometimes deadly behavior in which teens in the south suburbs have been engaging, including underage drinking and law enforcement concerns over the increase in availability of drugs, particularly heroin."

"That January, we began working closely with our police department and began forming student, parent and staff educational programs," Stagg High School Principal Eric Olsen said.

Since the programs began, drug and alcohol use has decreased, however, school and city officials are still not satisfied with the numbers. In 2012 there were 14 illegal drug incidents at Stagg High School, two marijuana incidents, nine students caught under the influence of drugs or alcohol and one student caught with the possession of alcohol. In 2013, there were four illegal drug incidents, one marijuana incident, and ten students caught under the influence of drugs or alcohol, with a total of 26 for 2012 and 15 for 2013.

In October 2012, through a partnership with the Robert Crown Center designed to enhance drug awareness and prevention efforts, all of the Stagg High School staff was trained by the Robert Crown Center staff on health lessons, alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. Olsen reported that every school within District 230 has a substance abuse coordinator that serves as a link and a liaison between the school and rehabilitation centers, including Rosecrans Rehab.

Stagg also holds a monthly Law Enforcement Mega Meeting, at which members of the Palos Hills Police Department and representatives of Stagg High School discuss any drug related usage among students. Once a student is discovered using drugs, there is a meeting held with the dean, a member of the Palos Hills Police Department, the school's substance abuse coordinator, one of the student's teachers, the student and at least one parent. Possession of drugs on school property or being under the influence during school time results in a ten day suspension that will be reduced to a five day suspension if the family agrees to Risk Assessment. Distribution of drugs on school property results in a ten day suspension and a recommendation to the school board for expulsion.

Moraine Valley Community College, located at 9000 West College Parkway, has also joined in on the heroin preventative programs through Student Education Sessions, regarding heroin use, offered throughout the year along with counseling that is always available for any student who has gone through any difficult times dealing with addiction, whether personally or experiencing it through a friend or family member.

District 230 believes that through educational programs, prevention and awareness can be achieved if taken seriously by faculty, staff, students and parents. Carl Sandburg's Principal, Debbie Boniface, stresses the importance for parents, community members and students to know that the point is not to get someone in trouble, but to get them help and support.

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CountyCare enrollement

Do you need Healthcare? Enroll in CountyCare.

CountyCare is a new health care program that provides qualified Cook County Residents with complete health coverage. CountyCare provides access to inpatient and outpatient care, home health, labs, X-rays, mammograms, prescription drugs, mental health and addiction service as well as many other healthcare services.

Qualifications for CountyCare are:

U.S. citizen or 5 year legal immigrant

Residents of Cook County

Ages 19 to 64 years old

Have a social security number or have applied for one

Yearly income must be less than $15,282 for an individual or $20,628 couple.

Not be eligible for Medicaid, Medicare or CHIP.

Cook County Commissioner Joan Patricia Murphy, is hosting a CountyCare Enrollment Event, Wednesday, June 26th at Moraine Valley Community College. Located at 9000 West College Parkway, Building M in Palos Hills from 10am. To 2p.m

Once enrolled in the program CountyCare members will receive primary healthcare service from participating FQHCs, including Cook County Health and Hospital System and other participating local hospitals and healthcare sites.

If you cannot attend in person to Commissioner Murphy's Enrollment Event please apply by phone at 312-864-8200. The Call center is open Monday through Friday 8 am to 8 pm, and Saturday 9am to 2pm.

Opening of a new Senior Center

The Village of Oak Lawn would like to publicly announce the grand opening of its new senior center. The Village worked in partnership with Oak Lawn-Hometown School District 123 to secure space at the former McGugan School, located at 5220 West 105th Street, to provide the senior citizens of Oak Lawn with their own wing of the building that includes a multipurpose room, lounge space, kitchen facilities, and staff offices.

Are you having a special event or fundraiser? Call Linda for details at 708-425-1910.

Frank, Matt Holzfeind and Darla, Molly Glynn are at the diner.

Homecoming 1972

by Annette Dixon

Chicago Dramatists presents a World Premiere production which is directed by Kimberly Senior. Ms. Senior is Chicago Dramatists Associate Artist and director of the 2013 Pulitzer Prize winning play Disgraced by Ayad Akhtar.

The beautiful play which tells a great story of a young man after serving our country during the Vietnam era finds himself feeling guilty for living through this ordeal. After seeing so many of his fellow man dying or coming home with sustained injuries through those remembered years, he cannot handle the mundane everyday life. The torture of Frank trying to desperately fit into our culture just didn't work out for him. As one of the returnees once stated in a documentary I made, "we all came home shaking and didn't know why it was happening. What I did was to seek help."

This play was well written and captured the reality of what occurred within the years of a man who didn't get help. Playwright, Robert Koon whose family has a history of military service dating back to the Revolutionary War, "we are no strangers to the uncertain realities of wartime and I hope 'Homecoming 1972' will call attention to the veteran's issues like mental health and unemployment.", said Robert Koon.

All of the actors did such a good job communicating to the audience, we felt as though we were part of the action on stage. Molly Glynn who played Darla will be with the Chicago Dramatists production until June 9th. Darla will be played by understudy, Megan Kohl from June 13, until the 23rd.

Chicago Dramatists is a professional theater producing in accordance with Actor's Equity Association. Chicago Area Theatre Contract and is a member of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the League of Chicago Theatre, The Producers Association of Chicago Theater (PACT), Bucktown/Wicker Park Chamber of Commerce, Oak Park Chamber of Commerce and the West Town Chamber of Commerce. They are located at 1105 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago, IL.

To purchase tickets or for more information visit www.chicagodramatists.org or call 312-633-0630.

Smokey Joe's Café extended through June 30

SJCChicago LLC is proud to announce the extension of Theo Ubique Cabaret Theatre's production of Smokey Joe's Café The Songs of Leiber and Stoller at the Royal George Cabaret Theatre, 1641 N. Halsted Ave. through June 30. The hit production received rave reviews from Chicago and just recently received five Non-equity Jeff Award Nominations for Production - Revue, Ensemble, Director - Musical or Revue, Choreography and Music Direction. The performance schedule, Ticket prices range from $25 - $46.50 and may be purchased at the Royal George Box Office or www.ticketmaster.com or call 312.988.9000. Or visit www.SmokeyJoesCafeChicago.com.

The transfer of Smokey Joe's Café The Songs of Leiber and Stoller features the same award-winning cast directed, once again, by Brenda Didier. This production's musical direction is by Jeremy Ramey and Steve Hiltebrand serves as the associate director and associate producer. Smokey Joe's Café, originally presented, in it's pre-Broadway engagement as Baby That's Rock n Roll, the Songs of Leiber and Stoller at The Royal George Theatre in 1994, returns to its roots at The Royal George with the 2012 critically acclaimed Theo Ubique Cabaret production. Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller, as much as anyone, virtually invented rock 'n' roll, and now their songs provide the basis for an electrifying entertainment that illuminates a golden age of American culture. Theo Ubique Cabaret Theatre's Smokey Joe's Café The Songs of Leiber and Stoller's features nearly 40 of the greatest rock n' roll songs ever recorded, covering the classic themes of love won, lost and imagined blend with hilarious set-pieces and slice-of-life emotions, such as "Hound Dog," "Love Potion #9," "Yakety Yak," "Charlie Brown," and "Jailhouse Rock." and with a cast of nine plus a four piece band, the return of this hit production is sure to bring sold out crowds to their feet once again.

Music Box Theatre announces summer special events

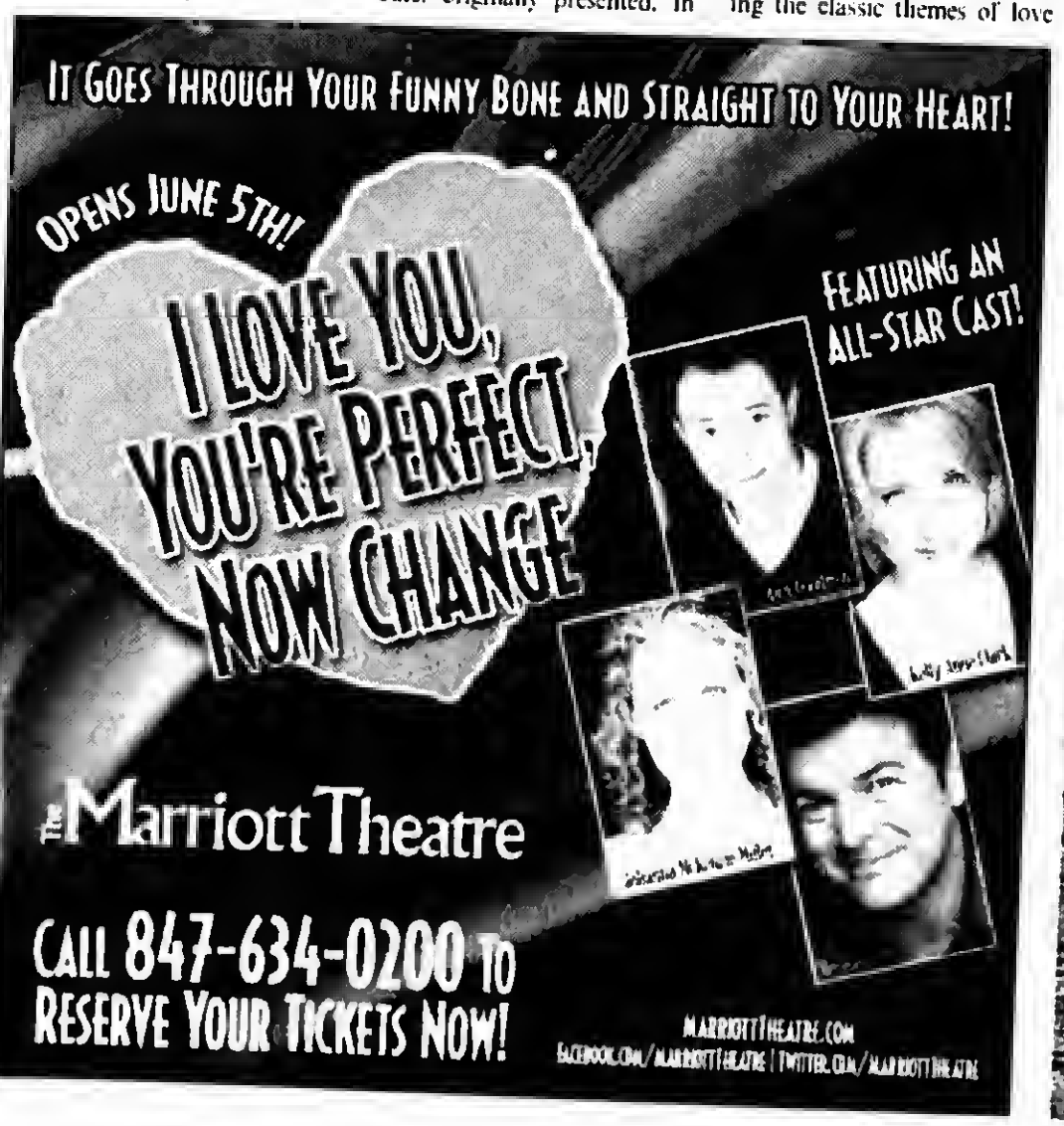
Beyond the Rocks starts Saturday, June 8, 2013 at noon.

This silent romance starring film legends Gloria Swanson and Rudolph Valentino was long considered one of the great "lost" films from the Hollywood golden age; only a one-minute fragment was known to exist. Lost for more than 80 years, film cataloguers recently found nitrate reels of Beyond the Rocks and lovingly restored this stunning tale of romance.

This House starts Saturday, June 15, at noon and Tuesday, June 25, at 7:30 pm.

National Theatre Live is an exciting initiative to broadcast live performances of the best of British theater to cinemas around the world. In this funny and moving political epic set in 1974, the corridors of Westminster ring with the sound of infighting and backbiting as Britain's political parties battle to change the future of the nation, whatever it takes. Charlie Buckland and Phil Daniels star.

Music Box summer calendar available at www.musicboxtheatre.com, or 773-871-6604.



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Prepared meatballs, like Casa Di Bertacchi, are perfect to keep on hand to make a great meal, such as these easy meathall nachos.

There is more to meatballs

(NAPSA)-The familiar, bite-sized favorite, the meathall, has become all the rage, appearing in more places than just on the appetizer tray or at the pasta bar.

Because meathalls are fun and so versatile, many trendy consumers today may look at them in a whole new light.

Active families appreciate that frozen meathalls can he enjoyed any day of the week, because all the prep work has been done for you. The meathalls are already seasoned, making them an even-more-delicious (and possibly less expensive) addition to a recipe or sauce than unseasoned, plain ground beef. Once they're defrosted, you can use the meatballs whole or dice them up, even grind them in a food processor. They can he stirred into favorite recipes, whether steamy soups and stews, hearty casseroles or flavorful pasta plates. They really stand out in a succulent meathall sandwich. Pick up a package of high-quality, frozen meatballs and use them in recipes much as you would ground beef.

You can get Casa Di Bertacchi meatballs from Sam's Club frozen in a 6-pound bag, and keep them on hand for a quick dish when a hungry crowd suddenly appears, such as this tasty recipe for meatball nachos.

Easy Meatball Nachos
Ingredients
16 Casa Di Bertacchi fully cooked meatballs, thawed
1 medium onion, chopped
1 green bell pepper, seeded and chopped
1 tablespoon olive oil
1 envelope taco seasoning
1 can (14.5 ounces) sliced stewed tomatoes, with liquid
1 can (15 ounces) black beans, rinsed and drained
1 bag (10 ounces or larger) tortilla chips, any variety
Grated cheddar or Monterey Jack cheese
Sour cream (optional)
Directions

• Cut meatballs into quarters. In a large frying pan, sauté the onion and bell pepper in oil over medium-high heat until tender.

• Stir in meatballs and cook for 3 minutes. Stir in taco seasoning, tomatoes and beans.

• Reduce heat to medium and simmer for 10 minutes, stirring occasionally and breaking apart tomato chunks.

• Spoon meat mixture over individual servings of tortilla chips. Sprinkle cheese over top and garnish with sour cream.

Makes 8-10 servings.

Variation: Meat filling can also be served burrito style, in warm flour tortillas.

For more great meatball recipes, visit www.casameatballs.com.

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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 39 | Number 24 | June 18, 2013

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

Hickory Hills employees welcome insurance options

by Jan Glaz

On June 14th. at the City of Hickory Hills City Council Meeting. a representative of the Employees Insurance Committee announced that City employees wanted to offer thanks to City Treasurer. Dan Schramm. and Alderman John Szeszycki for their contribution of time and effort in compiling and organizing a four option health insurance renewal plan. Multiple options aid employees by allowing them to weigh various benefits and costs within each proposal. For the next six months the current Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) and Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) options will remain the same but as of January 1, 2014 a new plan will take effect. Treasurer Schramm disclosed that the employee's current plan includes 90-10 co-insurance which is usually 80-20 and an out of pocket of $500.00 that is usually $1000.00. Before employees move forward, the spokesperson for the Insurance Committee requested an opportunity to include as an option the current PPO package. without any changes Mayor Howley stated the council will consider a fifth option and continue to tweak the renewal plan. July 1st is the deadline for signing a new plan.

Endnotes; a motion passed for Ordinance 13-7 to Terminate Special Service area #1 - #4. in regards to the county and taxing funds. A contract met with approval for Street Micro-surfacing in the amount of $52,889. City Engineer Tom Lang listed a request on the agenda to pay Invoice #10361301 in the amount $207,330.62 to D. Construction for miscellaneous resurfacing projects – Pay Estimate #1 (Partial). Mayor Mike Howley asked, "They did a good job according to our engineers, is public works happy with their work?" The answer carried positive as did the vote.

Right to Left: Brian Lepacek. Executive Director of the LCMH Foundation and artist Robert P. Workman.

American Artist donates artwork to Little Company of Mary Hospital

Robert P. Workman of Chicago. IL donated a work of his own art to Little Company of Mary Hospital (LCMH). Brian Lepacek. Executive Director of the hospital's Foundation accepted the artwork on behalf of LCMH for the hospital's heritage collection. Mr. Workman. who was born at LCMH. is the first American artist accepted into the Musee du Louvre in Paris. France for the 21st century. Mr. Workman has been nominated for the Congressional National Medal of the Arts and is an alumni of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

Evergreen Park approves housing flip ordinance

by Matt Mayer

An ordinance amending Section 5-110 Bond required. and Chapter 5. Building and Building Regulations. of the village code was unanimously approved at the June 3 Evergreen Park Board of Trustees meeting. A non-owner occupied residential building. which has been vacant just prior to acquisition and is being rehabilitated and is non-owner occupied after rehabilitation now requires a $10,000 bond.

An additional plumbing bond of $500 and an additional electrical bond of $500 shall also be required. This category covers buildings that are being substantially rehabilitated for sale or rent. A structure is considered "non-owner occupied" if the person or entity. which purchased the property and is making or contracting for improvements. does not occupy the same as their principle residence for at least 12 months after the certificate of occupancy is issued. Such structure must be entitled to a homeowner's exemption from the Cook County Assessor for that entire 12-month period to be considered owner -occupied.

Mayor James Sexton fervently said, "We have a lot of people coming into town to rehab homes and then rent them. The $10,000 bond gives them a little bit more of an investment in the community and also assures us that the work will be done properly. We've had an influx of homes bought in the village in the past several months from large companies that don't reside in the village. Their only intension is to buy these homes. fix them and rent them". said Sexton.

"I'm not interested in real-estate people or flippers making money. This will put a caution on people buying up houses to flip them or rent them. If you live here it doesn't cost you any money. What it is probably going to do is raise the value of your home because were bringing in better people to live in the homes. This is to protect the people that live here and nothing more". said Sexton. Sexton referred to village attorney who reiterated that the ordinance is meant to protect the people of the village. Sexton reiterated again and said "I don't care about those guys coming into Evergreen Park trying to buy something and make a fast buck and get the heck out".

If the residence is to be owner occupied, the amount of the bond is $500 if the amount of the construction work is $5.000 or more. For work less than $5.000, the bond is $250. An additional plumbing bond of $500 and an additional electrical bond of $500 is also required. All cash bonds must be paid by the contractor and not the owner or lessee of the property. Any fees owed to the village, including building permit fees. inspection fees. professional fees and unpaid fines for violations incurred during construction shall be deducted from the cash bond on deposit with the village before any refund is made. Additional information may be obtained by calling the village hall at 708.422.1551 or the Building Commissioner Edward Clohessy at 708.229 1139.

Justice moves forward with Nationwide Data Plan

by Jan Glaz

A motion announced by Trustee Sue Small to accept a proposal from Verizon Wireless to restructure the personal communications program for department heads. board members. the clerk and the mayor to standardize service to a nationwide e-mail and data plan, received a positive vote at the Village of Justice President and Board of Trustees Meeting held on June 10th. Trustee Small said that the Village received a great deal from the State of Illinois and that they will all be on the same type of phone system that will allow them to have access immediately to e-mail. Trustee Small also brought forth a motion accepted by the Board of Trustees in regards to approving quotes from Dell Government Purchases Division and ISI to purchase and install five new computers and associated software for the Building Department. Public Works and the Finance Office at a cost not to exceed $8000 in total. Trustee Rusch commented that the items were budgeted for within this year's budget. In reply Trustee Small confessed that the bid was not the most inexpensive bid it was $500 higher: however the upgrade within the Dell Computer System is well worth the extra $100 for each of the five computers. The total purchase with the labor to install the software and include everyone on the same hardware is $7715.93.

There are 151 utility poles within the main arterials of the Village. Trustee Small requested and received approval for $2000.00 from the Special Events funds towards the purchase of 48 or 49 light pole decorations for display on the Village's major thoroughfares for the 4th of July and other patriotic holidays. However, stated Small. the approval is only for one third of what is needed as the cost for all poles would be approximately $5236.00.

"Let's not go crazy. let's start small at $2000 and next year put some more in the budget." said President Wasowiez.

Special Mention: The Village of Justice 2013 Scholarship Awards in the amount of $500 each were presented to Mary Chaudhry; Ryan Krob: Matthew Zurlo: Ashley Morrison; Michael Tomasko. Argo High School and Natalie Doogan. Queen of Peace High School.

Village View

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 12 | June 18, 2013

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Oak Forest profits from tree sale

by Jan Glaz

"Everybody loves a sale," said Director of Public Works Rich Rinchich on June 12th, at the City of Oak Forest City Council Meeting. Council members did not hesitate to agree, the vote was unanimous to waive bidding and purchase parkway trees from Aladdin Landscaping in the amount of $30,000; what amounts to a clearance sale price. Aladdin Landscaping had planted and grown trees from 2003 to 2010 for the City of Chicago. The company grew thousands of trees in expectation of continued planting work with Chicago however in 2010 the City of Chicago reduced tree planting with its budget reductions. "Lucky for us," stated Rinchich before offering additional details. Aladdin Landscaping must move the trees before they grow too large to transplant. It's a great opportunity for Oak Forest as Emerald Ash Borer infestations have created tree competition for nursery stock. The price quote is significantly low for 2.5" to 3.5" caliper trees. We are offered $75 a tree for 3½ inch quality trees. Rinchich added that if Aladdin's pricing and stock had been available for the spring 2013 planting the city could have saved $3,124 and the trees would have been larger.

A motion carried for a Resolution relating to a Façade Assistance Program Agreement for exterior improvements at 5233-5251 West 159th Street. The Property owner, Guillermo Rivera, wishes to renovate the interiors of the VIP Mongolian Bar & Grill and La Isla Ice Cream and update signage, improve landscaping and parking and to add awnings. The Assistance Program is a reimbursement program and the 2013 limits to the business owners are 1/3 of the project or a $20,000 cap.

A Water Meter and Telemetry Units purchase was approved before the meeting adjourned. The city council authorized public works to spend up to and not exceed $45,000. This will enable the water department to place larger orders and maintain adequate supplies as manufacturers have reduced stock creating shortages and resupply issues for the City's distributor.

IDOT budget constraint forces Orland to retool

by Jan Glaz

Police Officers complete traffic crash reports and transmit them to the Illinois Department of Transportation on an IDOT Computer Program known as "MCR." IDOT has put all Illinois police agencies on notice that they will discontinue support of MCR, due to budget constraints, at the end of 2013. To replace MCR the Orland Park Village Staff selected the LexisNexis eCrash Program which is superior to the programs in current use because crash reports are uploaded to the portal automatically without the necessity of a Records Clerk interaction. On June 3rd at the Village of Orland Park Board of Trustees Meeting the NexisLexis Law Enforcement Agency Information Agreement met with approval. There is no cost to the Village of Orland Park as LexisNexis generates a revenue source through convenience fees paid by requestors. Most of the requests are from motorists' insurance companies that are processing a claim. The cost for the report remains $5.00 which goes to the Village. When the LexiNexis convenience fee is added the total cost for each report will remain at $11.00. In 2011 the Village Board approved an agreement with Carfax Municipal Assistance Program for the deployment of their program known as DOCVIEW Traffic Accident Reporting Solution. Upon approval of the LexisNexis Agreement the Board also approved discontinuing the use of the current solution known as DOCVIEW.

Other Approvals: A motion carried in regards to the purchase of 600 hydrant markers from Ziebell Water Service Products, Inc. of Orland Park, Illinois, for an amount not to exceed $9,600. It is not uncommon for the Village to receive requests from residents to have markers installed on hydrants near their homes. Hydrant markers simplify the process of locating hydrants in tall vegetation, deep snow and in emergency situations in both daylight and at night. Markers are also helpful to distinguish Village hydrants from adjacent municipalities and other water providers. There are approximately 4,600 fire hydrants located throughout the Village; about one-half of the hydrants are equipped with hydrant markers.

The Board of Trustees authorized the purchase of a 2013 New Holland C227 Compact Track Loader for the Parks Department from Martin Implement Sales, Inc. of Orland Park, Illinois, through the National Joint Powers Alliance Discount Program for a price not to exceed $44,883. This is $5,117 under the budgeted amount. Also approved, the purchase of a replacement 3/4 Ton 2013 Ford F250 4x4 Pickup Truck equipped with an 8' snow plow, power lift gate and amber warning light for the Parks Department from Currie Motors Frankfort of Frankfort, Illinois, for a price not to exceed $33,180.

Tinley Park authorizes a marketing extravaganza

by Jan Glaz

To continue the two year Downtown Tinley community marketing initiative the MainStreet Commission recommended and the Board of Trustees approved a professional service agreement with Findzall Community Marketing through April 30, 2014. This item was adopted at the June 4th Village of Tinley Park Board of Trustees Meeting after a discussion of the details in regards to the Resolution. During year one, the Commission, with the assistance of Findzall, produced the Downtown Tinley Website, the monthly Experience Downtown Tinley newsletter (2000 subscribers), Facebook page (700 followers) and Twitter feed (82) followers. Also, monthly social media marketing training sessions have been hosted for small business owners and managers. The result of these endeavors is a rise in participation and sponsorships by Downtown businesses in Downtown Tinley events. During year two, the plans will focus on increasing subscriber, follower and participant counts and on downtown business attractions efforts. The contract amount is not to exceed $48,960. Funds are included for this purpose in the Fiscal Year 2014 budget.

Overhead "Clean up": Officials agreed to a letter of agreement to authorize ComEd to underground existing electric infrastructure in advance of the US45 reconstruction project. The Village staff coordinated with ComEd to identify overhead distribution and service infrastructure that can be undergrounded in the US45 right-of-way within Tinley's jurisdiction (179th Street and 175th Street) in advance of the IDOT project. ComEd submitted a cost estimate of $121,000. Both Public Works and the Village attorney determined it to be acceptable. Funds for this project were included in the current budget in the amount of $200,000 and the project is expected to be $79,000 under the budgeted amount.

A Geographic Information System Contract (GIS) with Ayres Associates met with board approval before the meeting adjourned. Back in December of 2011, the Village entered into an agreement to join a GIS consortium with seventeen other communities. For the current fiscal year funds are included for aerial photography to be taken over the Village. Obtaining this type of data as part of the GIS consortium participation allows the Village to save about 15% from what it would pay if done independently. Benefits include, increased resolution and accuracy of digital imagery providing greater details regarding manholes, inlets and other public infrastructure; and increased ability to plan for and respond to emergency situations.

Photos by Heather Warthen

Orland Park Area COC to host Fine Art Fair

Fine art will return to Orland Park this summer when the Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce hosts this year's Fine Art Fair. The non-juried art fair, which will be held in partnership with the Village of Orland Park and Orland Park Crossing, is to be held from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, July 20, and Sunday, July 21, outdoors at the Orland Park Crossing shopping center, at 142nd Street and LaGrange Road. It will be the second year the chamber has hosted the event.

In addition to the artists, free entertainment will be provided by local musicians and dancers. Children attending the fair will also have the opportunity to participate in a unique community art project that will be seen throughout Orland Park once it is completed.

Artist registration forms and event sponsor forms are available on the home page of the chamber's website at www.orlandparkchamber.org. For more information on the art fair, call (708) 349-2972.

Village View

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SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 14 | Number 12 | June 18, 2013

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Palos Hills approves Police Pension Board nomination

by Matt Mayer

The mayoral appointment of Peter Pollos to fill a vacancy on the Police Pension Board was unanimously approved at the brief Palos Hills City Council meeting. Ald. Shultz read a complimentary letter from a senior regarding Senior Serviees. Ald. William read a complimentary letter from the supervisor of Palos Township. Ald. Hanson announced that there would he a public meeting at 7:30 at city hall. regarding the rezoning of Southwest Highway. which incorporates the former Sid's Greenhouse.

Mark Daniels from Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church requested that the city once again partner with the church for their Annual Greek Festival. which is slated for Aug. 17 and 18 at the Church at11025 Roberts Road. The city council approved the request and declared the two-day event as Greek Heritage Weekend in the city. The city will give the church approval to include the city's name on signs and baoners as well as a posting on the city website at www.paloshillsweb.org/.

Worth approves appointment of Assistant Public Works Superintendent

by Matt Mayer

The village hoard approved the mayoral appointment of Ed Urban as Assistant Superintendent of Public Works at the June 4 Worth Board of Trustees meeting. Village Clerk Bonnie Price announced that volunteers are needed for Worth Days, which will be held on Aug 22 through August 25. Mega passes are currently on sale for $40 at the village hall. Also interested individuals may visit the village website at www.villageworth.com/ to obtain the following applications and forms: Volunteer: not for profit organization: food vendor: art and craft vendor: parade application: business exhibition application. These applications and forms may also be obtained at the village hall.

At the public comment portion of the meeting. a resident said that a week ago. he heard a noise at 11:45 p.m. and he went to the intersection of 109th and Ridgeland Avenue. He discovered a sanitary district deep tunnel manhole cover. located in the pedestrian walk way and the intersection of the street. had blown off. He called the police and the Chicago Ridge police eame out and tried to move the cover over. however they couldn't budge it. he said. Officials said the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District did come out and replace the eover. Mayor Mary Werner assured the resident that the village would contaet the MWRD about this issue to ensure this it does not oeeur again.

Authorization from the local liquor commissioner to renew the State of Illinois Speeial Use Permit for the Worth Days Fest to be held at 7425 W. 115th Street was approved as well as a request to authorize Mayor Werner to execute a eontract with Walk Ins Band for $750.00 for the Fest.

Palos Heights Mayor recognizes Golden Shoes 50th Anniversary

by Matt Mayer

Mayor Robert Straz made a special presentation to Golden Shoes, who is celebrating their 50th anniversary of operating their business in in Palos Heights. Golden shoes has also been selected as the Business of the Month for June. Straz also presented a certificate of appreciation to Palos South Middle School student Liam Krammer, winner of SD 118's Silent Auction Mayor for Day. He toured city hall and the police department. met with the mayor and participated in the evening's city council meeting.

Other highlights: A motion for the city attorney, Tom Brown, to draft an ordinanee for a two-way stop sign at the intersection of 122nd Street and 69th Avenue to stop north and southbound traffie on 69th Avenue was approved as well as a motion to waive the rules and adopt the ordinanee. A motion to authorize the Director of Public Works to trim the trees in the right-of-way up ten feet at the intersection of 122nd street and 69th Avenue was approved as well as a chief of police request to hire Traffie Surveys, Inc. in an amount not to exceed $1.500.00 for a traffie study for 122nd Street between Harlem and Oak Park Avenues.

A motion to authorize Straz to prepare an intergovernmental agreement among member ageneies of the Northeastern Illinois Crime Laboratory was approved. The fees attaehed to this agreement are $1.27 per residents plus a $3,000 fee for maintenanee and destruetion of evidenee. Based upon the 12,515 residents of Palos Heights. the annual fee will be $18,894.05. The fee for the remainder of 2013 will be $9,447.03. A request to pay $7,985.10 to Insituform. which is 10-percent of the original eontract for the sanitary sewer lining project. as well as a request to pay $1,400.00 to Insituform which is 10-percent of the additional costs assoeiated with the sanitary sewer lining project was also approved

Help with Medicare questions

SHIP (Senior Health Insurance Program) is a free counseling service for seniors and Medicare recipients who may need additional information on Medicare or Part D Prescription Drug eovcrage. Trained volunteers provide onc-on-one help with questions about Medieare and Medieare supplement insurance, Medicare Advantage plans. Medicare claims/appeals. Medicare Beneficiary Rights and Guarantees, and Long Term Care eoverage.

SHIP counselors receive their training through the Illinois Department of Aging. Counselors do not recommend. sell or solicit specifie insurance products.

The Palos Township office located at 10802 S. Roberts Road, Palos Hills, IL offers the SHIP counseling serviee. If you have any questions regarding Medieare or would like to speak to the SHIP counselor, contact the Palos Township office at 708-598-4418 to schedule an appointment.

Palos Park Library upcoming events

Join historian Clarenee Goodman at the Palos Park Publie Library with his "virtual tour" of Chicago's calamities and catastrophes in his program titled "Fires. Floods & Flops: Tragedies. Disasters and Screw-Ups" on Tuesday. June 25 at 7 p.m.

Children ages 5 and up are invited to come in your bathing suit with your beach blanket to play Beach Blanket Bingo and win great summertime prizes on Thursday, June 27 from 4:30 to 5:30 pm at the Palos Park Publie Library. No registration necessary.

Calling all LEGO lovers ages 4 and up. Come to the Palos Park Library on Wednesday June 26 at 4:30 pm. Make new LEGO ercations with the library's LEGOs and put them on display. Bring a friend and let your imagination run wild!

Call the library for any questions or to register at 708-448-1530 or visit the library's website at www.palosparklibrary.org. The library is located at 12330 Forest Glen Blvd. in Palos Park.

Village View

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B-MAC EDITION

Volume 7 | Number 12 | June 18, 2013

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Alsip may have legal battle with Crestwood

by Jan Glaz

At the June 3rd Village of Alsip Board Meeting Mayor Patriek Kitehing voiced diseontent with the Village of Crestwood in regards to the tentative 90 day expiration of a their agreement for monitoring fire and burglar alarms and the faet that the expiration terms did not reference Keltron Monitoring Equipment owned by the Village. "They didn't mention anything about giving back to the Village of Alsip their radios so we may have to have a legal battle over that. I just want you to be aware that that's out there," warned the Mayor. In respect to the Alsip Fire Department Trustee Kevin Michaels reported that Fire Chief Thomas Styczynski has reeeived a eertificate from FEMA/ Department of Homeland Seeurity for the eompletion of the 40 hours NIMS ICS All-hazards Publie Information Officer elass that he attended in February of 2013 in Glenview at the Northern Illinois Publie Safety Training Aeademy. This was a grant funded class funded through Cook County Department of Homeland Seeurity and USAI (Urban Area Seeurity Initiative) funds.

Cutting grass and removing weeds brought eomments from Mayor Kitehing. Trustee Sheila B. MeGreal reported good news. the Village issued code violation tickets for those not cutting grass... Mayor Kitehing asked, "How many violations?" MeGreal replied, "Fifty-two." Kitehing added, "The problem is every spring it eomes up getting our businesses to eut the weeds in their parkways. I've just about given up, there's nothing else we ean do but seek eompliance by writing tickets. We've issued a lot of tiekets the past two weeks."

Requests Approved by the Board of Trustees inelude: Publie Works, to hire one full time employee and one part time maintenanee employee to replace Brian MeElroy, who will be retiring July 12, 2013; for the Water and Sewer Department, to hire four temporary seasonal employees for a period not exeeed twelve weeks and to hire a meter reader to fill the vaeaney ereated when Mike Alberts was moved to full time; ratifieation of the emergeney expenditure of $16,528.11 to Erikson Plumbing for work performed; and a refund for Jan Eleetrie for $50.00, permit #12-12569, for work never performed.

Crestwood Village Board attends to legalities

by Jan Glaz

With Village Attorney David Sosin and Trustee John Z. Toseas, a lawyer himself, at his side, reeently elected Mayor Louis Presta adjusted content on the agenda and corrected meeting protoeol whenever neeessary. Clerk Jeannette O'Donnell did not attend the June 6th Village of Crestwood Board Meeting and Attorney Sosin was approved as temporary Clerk. After the approval of the regular Village Board Meeting Minutes of May 16th and the regular Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes of May 14th and May 21st, 2013, separate motions earried in regard to Legal Counsel: Resolution Authorizing the Hiring of Special Counsel, Miller, Canfield, Paddoek & Stone to the Village for Litigation and the eonsideration of Engagement of Miller, Canfield, Paddoek and Stone P.L.C., and to Authorize and Hire Special Counsel Tabet, DiVito & Rothstein to the Village for Litigation and Engagement.

During the public portion of the meeting a resident questioned Mayor Presta in regards to Crestwood becoming a Home Rule community. The eitizen had read that it would allow the Village to have the authority to initiate various rules including finanees, the release of tax eaps, and to raise sales tax to increase revenue and that the issue would have to be considered by the Board of Trustees and then be put on a referendum for the people to vote on. Mayor Presta replied, "As of right now we'll put it out there for consideration, there are no plans, something to think about."

Newsworthy: Before adjourning offieials agreed to approve and pass an Ordinanee of the Village of Crestwood Regulating Patrolmen's Salaries. Promotions in the Fire Department were approved as follows: Dan Jurka, Jr. from Lieutenant to Captain; Dan Brand from Lieutenant to Captain; Matthew Johnson from Engineer to Lieutenant; and, William Nyhanna from Engineer to Lieutenant. The appointments of Probationary Volunteer Firefighters: Miehael Ferguson, Bradley Golomb, Michael Grabarek; Neal Haemker; Kevin Lasak; and Scott Vandenbroucke.

Students (from left to right) Jamar Hobson, Jay Rodriguez, Gerald Kelleher, Kayla Recarte, Christian Newsom, Marcus Aldridge and Kayla Richard-Bonner proudly show off the pop tabs their winning classroom collected with Ronald McDonald.

Paul Revere Primary School collects for Ronald McDonald House

Paul Revere Primary School in Blue Island has reeently shown their philanthropie spirit by supporting the Ronald McDonald House Charities for another school year. Students and staff were busy colleeting pop tabs throughout the school year, whieh the charity reeycles for finaneial contributions. The school community brought in 60 pounds of pop tabs for the Oak Lawn house near Advoeate Children's Hospital. Beeause of their outstanding efforts, Paul Revere Primary students were treated to a visit by Ronald McDonald himself, accompanied by a program representative. They thanked the students for their collection and also shared fun tips for staying fit and active as well as the importance of friendship.

Midlothian Officials agree to fines for graffiti

by Jan Glaz

Individuals who place graffiti on the property of others in the Village of Midlothian will be subject to a fine. The amount of the fine will be established by an Ordinance the Board of Trustees approved at the Village of Midlothian Board of Trustees Meeting held on June 12th. In addition, an Ordinance Amending Section 6-7-2 in regards to Parental Responsibility in the Village of Midlothian met with approval.

Authorization was granted for Mayor Sharon Rybak to send letters to the Fire and Police Commission requesting that an offer of conditional employment be sent to the next two eligible police offieer applicants from the Lateral List and the next two eligible firefighter applieants from the Fire Department List. In regards to the Lateral List, the Board of Fire and Poliee Commissioners maintain a separate list of experienced police and firefighters who have two or more years of eontinuous full-time employment. A Lateral Transfer Eligibility List does not expire but an applicant who desires to remove their name from the list may do so with written notification to the Board. Lateral Transfer Eligibility applieants are exempt from the written examination requirement.

Newsworthy endnotes: Police Chief, Harold Kaufman, announced department commendations for Officer Hoselton, Detective Thibo and Detective Panozzo and Sergeant Delaney was sworn in to the office of Deputy Chief. Mark your ealendar, on June 26th at 7:30 p.m. there will be a Public Hearing for the reeertification of the Cicero Avenue TIF District. Effective Monday, June 10, 2013, the new Village Hall hours are Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Celebrate 237 years of freedom at the Veterans' Committee 3rd Annual Independence Day Parade 11 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. starting at the Grill Hardware parking lot 4751 W. 147 Street on Saturday, June 29, 2013. For additional information contact Dave Twombly 708-813-0280 or Sharon Doeden 708-990-8368.

Jonathan Collins Activity Center breaking ground this July

by Kelly White

More than 40 years in the making, members of the St. Gerald Parish will finally have their gymnasium. St. Gerald, 9310 S. 55th Court, will hold it's Blessed to Break Ground event on Saturday, July 13th after the 5pm mass for the Jonathan Collins Activity Center.

Land had been purchased across 55th Avenue for a standalone, all-purpose gymnasium, but the lot was sold when the parish needed money during the 1990s. In 2002, after a resurgence of the parish, getting the gym built became the number one mission of St. Gerald's Holy Name Society. By the time Fr. Lawrence Malcolm was appointed to St. Gerald's, parishioners had already raised 75-percent of the funds for the gym, mainly through carnivals and monthly pledge checks from parishioners. A close friend of Father Malcolm's donated $500,000, the final 25-percent necessary to begin the construction of the activity center this past fall.

"Father Malcolm has been the force behind this project," Debbie Janicke, Development Director for St. Gerald's Parish, stated.

Last October, parishioners broke ground for its new gym at Southwest Highway and Central Avenue. The gym is a culmination of a dream for three generations of St. Gerald parishioners, who had put the gym on the back burner, while rebuilding the school and church after both was nearly destroyed by the 1967 Oak Lawn tornado.

"The center will finally give our parish teams a home court," Father Malcolm explained. "During the day, our school students will have a gym to use instead of using the lunchroom as their gym. We hope to have senior activities also during the day and have the facility opened for adults in the evening after the students are finished."

The $1.6 million dollar activity center will be named for the grandson of two long-time parishioners, John and Alice Collins, who joined the parish in 1962 and raised five children in Oak Lawn. Their grandson, Marine Lance Cpl. Jonathan Collins, was 19 years old when he was killed by sniper fire during combat operations in Iraq on August 8, 2004.

In 2005, Alice began raising money that would eventually be used towards the St. Gerald's Activity Center, under her grandson's name through The LCPL Jonathan W. Collins Memorial Fund and Foundation. The foundation was started to keep Jonathan's memory and the memory of his sacrifice alive. Its mission is to support causes and organizations which reflect Jonathan's character, commitment and compassion, and to honor his service and ultimate sacrifice, serving as 1st Marine Division, 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines and Fox Company 2nd Platoon. The foundation strives to do this through increasing awareness, inspiring patriotism and raising funds in the hope of helping to sustain these causes and organizations in their existence and financial needs.

When Jonathan was in Iraq he sent a photo of him surrounded by children. The LCPL Jonathan W. Collins Memorial Fund and Foundation reported that he loved children and there really could be no greater honor for Jonathan than to know for all the decades of time to come, children and seniors and everyone in between will be enjoying the activity center.

The Jonathan Collins Activity Center will serve as a memorial tribute to Alice and John, two very active members of the St. Gerald Parish upon its completion this summer.

The benefactors of The LCPL Jonathan W. Collins Memorial Fund and Foundation efforts were primarily local organizations that were integral parts of Jonathan's life. Over time, this non-profit organization has expanded their scope to support national programs such as Fallen Heroes Project. Most recently, they have launched the "A Message from the Heart" campaign. "A Message from the Heart" are comfort bears that allow the deploying parent to leave a message, from their heart, to their child, that the child can listen to on their time, and on their terms, whenever they need to hear their parent's voice.

The LCPL Jonathan W. Collins Fund has also donated to Toys for Tots and the scholarship in his name at his alma mater, Crystal Lake South High School, along with providing funding to Crystal Lake South High School for an Athletic Wall of Fame, a new theatre curtain, an activity display case, and most recently, a brand new state of the art soccer field.

The LCPL Jonathan W. Collins Memorial Fund and Foundation has proudly donated to the building of an activity center for St. Gerald's Elementary School. The building will house the gymnasium and activity center which will benefit the school's first through eighth grade students and provide activities for local senior citizens in the area during after school hours.

Oak Lawn approves elimination of pension for elected officials

by Matt Mayer

Several hot button issues dominated the contentious June 11 Oak Lawn Board of Trustees meeting one being a resolutions which was proposed by newly elected trustee Mike Carberry (D-6) to eliminate the Illinois Municipals Retirement Fund for elected officials. Carberry said, "Once we finish serving, the village should be done paying us". He added that part time public officials should not be given pensions. Trustee Carol Quinlan (D-5) countered Carberry's statement by saying "You're new here, being a trustee is far from a part time job. Newly elected Trustee Terry Vorderer (D-4) agreed with Quinlan, adding that this is a public service job". Vorderer also asked, "In a sense of fairness, how will this affect trustees who have served 8 to 20 years - how will this affect their pension? Bury deferred this question and any others to the union rep who said this will only impact prospective elected officials. The rep said that current officials would not be affected.

Quinlan said that she wanted the board to understand there is no going back and if this board makes this decision, this benefit will no longer be available. "I think that we are speaking for people 15 to 20 years from now. Once the Village of Oak Lawn eliminates this benefit, it is then irreversible.

Trustee Bob Streit (D-3) said that the IMRF is the best funded pension in the State. The rep concurred with his statement, "This pension benefit offered today is the same when I was first elected in 1991, and so is the compensation of $150 per week", said Streit.

"It may sound good to talk about the pension crisis and eliminating a public pension. An elected official is not eligible for a pension until they serve for 8-years. The pension equates to about $10 dollars a month for each year of service", said Streit. "For example, if I were to retire today after 22 years, I would receive $220 per month once I reach age 62. Each month I put in 4.5-percent of my trustee pay into the fund and the village contributes the same. Over the course of a year, the village contribution is $27 per month or $324 per year. So eliminating the pension for elected officials will have no significant affect on the budget whatsoever. While the difference this will have on the village budget is insignificant, the impact that it may have on the pension of other employees could be very important", said Streit.

Streit's comments regarding Carberry's County Pension resulted in Trustees Carberry, Olejniczak, Streit and the Mayor talking over one another. Also Quinlan asked Bury to call to order the people in the audience that were speaking out. Bury instead called for a vote, however Carberry asked her to let Streit finish. Bury continued calling for a vote - no point of order was called. Carberry said in regards to his pension benefit with his employer that he can't reject it and that he won't receive a pension. "I would have to be there until I was 70 years old." said Carberry. He also sarcastically told Streit, "You are a class act". The resolution passed 4-2, Streit and Quinlan dissented. Bury gave her pension money to the police department. Trustees Olejniczak, Desmond, Carberry, and Vorderer opted out of the pension program prior to passing the resolution to eliminate the program.

Senior Art Soiree

The Worth Township Advanced Oil Painting Class will be exhibiting their work at the Evergreen Park Library. A reception introducing the art work will be held on Saturday, June 22nd from 1:00 to 3:00 pm at the library. The paintings will continue to be on display until Friday, August 22nd.

Students from Worth Township (residing in Alsip, Chicago, Evergreen Park, Oak lawn, Palos Hills and Worth) will present a variety of painting styles including, Impressionistic, Landscape, Still Life, and Portraiture.

Teacher, Sue Seputis of Burbank, an artist herself, has been teaching art for more than thirty years. She is currently teaching weekly classes in Burbank and Blue Island in addition to Worth Township.

Evergreen Park Library is located at 9400 South Troy Street (one block east of Kedzie) in Evergreen Park. The library is open Monday through Thursday, 9 am to 9 pm, Friday and Saturday, 9 am to 5 pm.

The Advanced Oil Painting Classes are held in the Worth Township Building located at 11601 S. Pulaski.

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We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

Scandinavian Park Inc NFP celebrates 60th anniversary of Vasa Park

In 2013, Scandinavian Park, Inc. NFP celebrates an exciting year with the 60th Anniversary of Vasa Park, the beautiful 25-acre park located on Route 31 in South Elgin, IL along the Fox River.

Scandinavian Park, Inc. NFP celebrates the culture, heritage and traditions of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. The Scandinavian Park, Inc. NFP board is led by President Judy Seifert of Bartlett, IL, Vice President Tom Cleveland of Sycamore, IL, Secretary Jackie Moline of Evergreen Park, IL and Treasurer Jack Grandin of Darien, IL, along with five elected Class "A" Trustees and a group of Class "B" trustees who are appointed by their respective Scandinavian lodges and organizations. These lodges and organizations include the Swedish Vasa Order of America's Austin Lodge, Bessemer Lodge, Hagar Lodge, Kronan Lodge, Siljan Mora Tuna Lodge, Viljan Lodge, Norwegian National League, Finnish American Society, Danish National Committee and the Icelandic Association of Chicago.

The scheduled 2013 Scandinavian Park, Inc. NFP-Sponsored Events include:

Saturday, June 22, 2013: Scandinavian Midsommar Celebration at Vasa Park

Saturday, August 10, 2013: Steak Fry with Crayfish Sampling at Vasa Park

Sunday, September 8, 2013: The 34th Annual Scandinavian Day Festival at Vasa Park featuring Scandinavian food, crafts, booths and entertainment, including the Swedish American Children's Choir, The Nordic Folk Dancers of Chicago, Leikarringen Heimhug Norwegian Folk Dancers of Chicago, Folk Daneing Classes led by the two folk daneing groups, Bjornson Male Chorus plus special entertainment ABBA Salute.

Saturday, October 5, 2013: The 13th Annual Fish Boil & Harvest Festival at Vasa Park

Saturday, October 26, 2013: Annual Scandinavian Park Membership Meeting and Complimentary Breakfast

Saturday, November 2, 2013: End of Year Clean-Up Day at Vasa Park with Volunteer Lunch

2014 Scandinavian Park Events:

Saturday, March 1, 2014: Scandinavian Park, Inc. NFP's 11th Annual Spring Dinner Dance & Fundraiser at the Des Plaines Elks Club, Des Plaines, IL. Info: www.vasaparkil.com

Spring 2014: Valborg Day "Spring Clean-Up" at Vasa Park with Volunteer Lunch

The historic 25-acre Vasa Park is located along the Fox River on Route 31 in South Elgin, Illinois, 7 miles south of the I-90 Northwest Tollway and 5 miles north of IL Rt. 64 North Avenue. For information, call the park hotline at 847-695-6720 or visit the websites: www.vasaparkil.com and www.scandinaviandayil.com. Look for the Scandinavian flags at the entrance!

Village of Evergreen Park events

Welcome Home Pvt. Adam Radochonski, coming home from Afghanistan.

Rain Barrels are available for purchase for summer water use (a great way to save money on water that you use for yard work, car washing, etc.) Call the Village Hall at (708) 422-1551.

50/50 Sidewalk Program has begun! Have your sidewalk squares replaced, and the Village will share the cost with you. Your cost is only $64.50 per square. Please call (708) 422-1562. Payment due in full by June 28, 2013.

Vehicle Sticker Renewal Applications will be sent out in August. The renewal deadline date has been changed to September 15 of each year.

Movies in the Park! Program begins on Friday's at 9pm at Duffy Park.

From The Office of Citizens Services. One day trip to Civil War Museum, Kenosha, Tuesday, June 25 at 7am Departure Luneh at Boat House Eatery. 10-mile roundtrip journey on Electric Railroad Tickets, $82 ea. Call (708) 422-8776

Farmers Market open on Thursday at Yukich Field!

Summer Programs Registration continues Monday through Friday, 9am to 5pm at the Community Center For your convenience, we are posting this Registration Form for all Programs: http://www.evergreenpark-il.com/DocumentCenter/View/340

Preschool Registration ongoing. Children who attend must be 3-years old and fully toilet-trained by the first day of school during the week of August 26, 2013. To register, you must provide the child's birth certificate, proof of residency and a $35 non-refundable deposit (which will be applied to the first pre-school payment).

Youth Commission The Youth Center is open Tuesday to Friday, 1pm-5pm. A variety of activities, games and social activities are available for youths from 5th grade through High School. Call the Evergreen Park Youth Commission for additional information and opportunities. This is a fun, safe place to be!

Upcoming summer trips include horseback riding, space golf, rock climbing and Comiskey Park tour.

Evergreen Park Library Event... Saturday, June 29, 3pm (Library event held at Mother McAuley) Meet Dr. Temple Grandin, autism activist and bestselling author. If you purchase a copy of her book The Autistic Brain ($20) at the Library's Circulation Desk, you will receive a priority book signing number. Call (708) 422-8522 or visit www.evergreenparklibrary.org.

American Cancer Society Relay For Life Event - Evergreen Park Coming July 13 at Brother Rice High School.

For more info, call (708) 423-5258 or visit www.relayforlife.org/evergreenparkil

Evergreen Park Classic Car Show coming on Friday, October 4!!!

"Day in the Park" coming Saturday, June 29, 11:30am-9pm, Circle Park.

Annual Independence Day parade & Wednesday, July 3, at 6:30pm.

Recreation Department Happenings

Reserve your spot in the Independence Day Parade! Make an amateur float, bring your own marching group, decorate the family car, your bike, or just come in costume. . .anything to add to the festivities of this great day. Entry forms are available at the Community Center, Village Hall, or online right on the front page of www.evergreenpark-ill.com!

Youth Commission needs volunteers to work at the Day in the Park on Saturday, June 29 from 11am to 9pm. If you need community service hours, please sign up for either two hours up to ten hours, selling hot dogs, chips, pop and candy.

For more information, call (708) 229-3377.

Independence Day celebration

The Burbank Park District's Annual Independence Day Celebration is on Saturday, June 29th from 4:30 to 10:30 p.m. at Michael Looney Park located at 77th & Narragansett Ave., Burbank. There will be fun for the whole family: carnival games, face painting, pony rides, petting zoo, trackless train, inflatable rides and much, much more. Other attractions will include food venders, beer garden, DJ, horseshoe tournament and a Bingo Tent. The day will conclude with an incredible fireworks display at 9:30 p.m. For more information, please call 708-599-2070 or visit our website at www.burbankparkdistrict.org.

Midlothian Independence Day parade

The Midlothian Veterans' Committee and the Village of Midlothian, in conjunction with the Midlothian Fire Department, are proudly sponsoring their 3rd Annual Independence Day Parade on Saturday, June 29, 2013. The parade steps off at 11:00 a.m. from Grill's Hardware. Families, businesses and organizations are invited to participate in the parade as Midlothian celebrates 237 years of freedom. Entries can include floats, cars, trucks, bikes or you can simply walk the parade route. Entry forms are available at Village Hall or can be downloaded from the Village of Midlothian's website at www.villageofmidlothian.net. The parade will end at the Village Green located at 147th and Springfield. After the parade, the 9/11 I-Beam from the Twin Trade Towers obtained by the Midlothian Fire Department will be dedicated at its permanent display on the Village Green. There will also be a flag burning ceremony on the Village Green to properly dispose of torn, faded or ripped U.S. flags. Flags needing disposal can be deposited in the mailbox at the VFW Post. For further information, please contact Dave Twombly at 708-813-0280 or Sharon Doedett at 708-990-8368. Mark your calendar to be part of this community event.

Oak Lawn Farmers Market

The Oak Lawn Farmers' Market is anticipating another successful season in the heart of Oak Lawn, beginning June 5th and every Wednesday (except September 4th), until October 16th. Our Farmers' Market is open from 7:00a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Shoppers will gather at Dumke Drive at 52nd Avenue to purchase a selection of fresh vegetables, fruit, delicious homemade jams, flowers, shrubs, homemade breads, spices, popcorn, jewelry, arts and crafts, and much more. Our market features over 35 vendors.

Opening day will feature the Chamber of Commerce serving coffee and doughnuts to kick off the morning shopping.

Festivals, Carnivals,
Parades, Fireworks,
4th of July Events,
Fun Fairs, Expos.
Call Linda for details,
at 708-425-1910 or
visit our website at
www.vvnew.com.

Congratulations Class of 2013

Wishing you the best of luck, from the

Village of Justice

Krzysztof (Kris) Wasowicz
Mayor

Kathy Svoboda
Clerk

Trustees:
Ed Rusch Jr, Melanie Kuban, Henry (Hank) Oszakiewski, Sue Small, Richard Sparr & Rick Symonds

Apply for no-cost health insurance through CountyCare

Cook County Board Commissioner Joan Patricia Murphy (6th District) sponsoring events to help people apply for CountyCare at two resouree fairs.

Cook County Board Commissioner Joan Patricia Murphy (6th District) is hosting two resouree fairs in Palos Hills and Chicago Heights, Ill., where Cook County Health and Hospitals System (CCHHS), Access Community Health Network, and Aunt Martha's Youth Service Center and Health Center will provide information and assist people who want to apply for the new no-cost health insurance program called CountyCare.

Once a CountyCare member, people are not required to pay for covered services, including routine doctor visits, hospital stays, prescription drugs, laboratory and x-ray services, mammograms, mental health services, public transportation, and other services. Uninsured or underinsured adults between ages of 19 and 64 are encouraged to visit the resource fairs to learn more about CountyCare and fill out an application if eligible.

To qualify, you must live in Cook County, he 19-64 years of age without dependents at home, have a Social Security number and be a legal immigrant for at least 5 years or a U.S. citizen. Yearly income must he below $15,282 for an individual or $20,628 per couple. You must not be receiving or eligible for Medicaid, Medicare or CHIP.

To apply, please bring one of each of the following items:

Proof of Identity:
Driver's license
Government issued picture ID
U.S. passport

Proof of Legal Status (for Non-Citizens only):
Form 1-94 arrival-departure form
Permanent resident card
Alien registration card
Green card
Other immigration document with picture and A-Number

Proof of Cook County Address:
Utility bill
Rent receipt/lease agreement
Illinois drivers license or state identification card
Other residency proof

Proof of Income (last 30 days):
Pay stubs
Employee statement
Unemployment document
Social Security, DHS, etc.

Wednesday, June 26, 2013, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Moraine Valley Community College, Building M, 9000 W. College Pkwy, Palos Hills, IL 60465.

Thursday, June 27, 2013, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Prairie State College, Conference Center Room #1315, 202 S. Halsted St., Chicago Heights, IL 60411.

Both fairs are free to the public.

CountyCare is a new Illinois Medicaid program. Patients choose a primary care site from participating local hospitals and healthcare sites throughout the county, including Cook County Health and Hospitals System locations.The patient is assigned a doctor, nurse, social worker and medical assistant to manage their health care through a new Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) model.

The CountyCare program was approved under the federal government's 1115 Medicaid Waiver, which permits CCHHS to early-enroll 115,000 individuals who will be eligible for Medicaid in 2014 through the Affordable Care Act.

City of Oak Forest e-Briefs

City Hall extends hours in June for vehicle sticker sales:

Oak Forest residents who want to purchase their vehicle stickers at City Hall instead of online or through the mail, have additional opportunities to do so. City Hall will be open every Saturday in June from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. during vehicle sticker sales. The deadline to purchase stickers, without penalty, is June 30.

Apply for a Forest in Bloom Award:

The Streetscape Commission is now accepting applications for the Forest in Bloom Awards, which are presented annually to residents, businesses and organizations who take the extra steps necessary to beautify their properties through exceptional landscaping. Applications are due July 1.

NuWay picks up branches with normal garbage service:

Residents can dispose of branches every week until November 30 with their normal garbage pickup. Nuway Disposal will pick up bundled branches up to 3-1/2" in diameter, no longer than four feet in length, and no heavier than 50 lbs. per bundle. The bundles should be placed at the curb on your regular trash day.

Forest Preserve celebrates grand opening of the Bremen Off-Leash Dog Area:

Join the Forest Preserve District of Cook County as they officially open the Bremen Off-Leash Dog Area at 16061 S. Oak Park Avenue on Saturday, June 22 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Enjoy Bill the Band at the Senior Summer Celebration on June 27:

The Oak Forest Senior Citizens Commission has invited Bill the Band to its Summer Celebration on Thursday, June 27 at the Community Center, 155th and Kilpatrick Avenue. The fun begins at 11 a.m. (doors open at 10 a.m.) and includes lunch and bingo. Purchase your ticket (only $4) at the City Hall.

Acorn Library seeks input for strategic plan;

The Acorn Public Library is seeking feedback from residents of its district in order to assist in the creation of a new strategic plan for the Library. The Library's administration is asking residents to complete a brief survey that covers what they like about their library and what they would like to see improved. You can take the survey online or get a hard copy at the library.

New equipment allows firefighters to provide more immediate care;

The Oak Forest Fire Department recently added Advanced Life Support (ALS) equipment to its fire engine – giving its firefighters the tools they need to begin lifesaving treatment when an ambulance is not readily available.

Water report now online:

The city's annual drinking water quality report is now available on the city's Web site. The report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the city's water system to provide safe drinking water. The report also will be mailed to residents by July 1.

Monthly senior program also includes Affordable Healthcare Act review:

A representative from Blue Cross Blue Shield will be at the Senior Commission's Summer Celebration on Thursday, June 27 to discuss how the Affordable Healthcare Act will affect seniors. The monthly program also will include entertainment by Bill the Band, lunch and bingo. The program starts at 11 a.m. but the doors to the Community Center open at 10 a.m. Tickets are available for only $4 at City Hall.

28th annual Hunger Walk at Soldier Field

June 29, at Soldier Field.

Registration begins at 7:00 am. walk begins at 8:30 am.

Help Together We Cope raise funds for the food pantry by participating in the Hunger Walk or by donating online. Visit our website for a direct link to join TWC's team OR register at www.chicagosfoodbank.org/hungerwalk. Click: Sign up, Join A Team and search for Together We Cope.

We receive $12 food depository credit for every walker, as well as matching funds. If we raise $500, we get an additional $100; $2500, an additional $500; $5000, an additional $1000. Join us!

Together We Cope is located at, 17010 Oak Park Avenue, Tinley Park IL 60477 and can be reached at 708-633-5040 or www.togetherwecope.org.

SCOTT'S GARAGE
www.ScottsGarage.net
Elim Benefit Car Show
Saturday, June 22nd, 2013
3rd Annual Show
Cars, Bikes & Trucks
13020 S. Central
Palos Heights, IL, 60463
Show Vehicles:
Pre-Registration $15 • At Gate $20
Free admission
Call 708-396-2082 or email elimshow@scottsgarage.net
Visit www.scottsgarage.net
ELIM
This is a not for profit event;
all proceeds go to Elim Christian Services

Live Video Gaming
At Nickobee's!
FREE
food and refreshments
for all players!
5 Chances to WIN prize
throughout the night!

Rosangela's
Pizza Restaurant
Since 1955
2807 W. 95th Street
Evergreen Park, IL
Happy
4th Of July
708-422-2041
Hours:
Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 11 am - 10 pm
Friday & Saturday 11 am - 11 pm
Sunday 1 pm - 10 pm • Closed Tuesday
Dine In • Carry Out • Delivery

Out and About

With Kelly White

Alsip

VFW Memorial Post 450, 11800 S. Cicero Ave., is asking for help to complete the Veterans Plaza and Path of Honor located at 11801 S. Pulaski Road. Veterans, relative and friends and business ure encouraged to participate. Purchasing a memorial brick is a way to remember all veterans, past and present. Bricks can be purchased for $100 apiece. For more information, please call: 708-388-2387.

The Worth Township Seniors will hold a free Rules of the Road class from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. August 7th and October 2nd. Appointment must be made to attend. Call the Wnrth Township Senior Room at 708-371-2900, ext. 28. Worth Township Center is located at 11601 Pulaski Road in Alsip.

Blue Island

At the Blue Island Park District, 12804 S. Highland Ave., yoga is affordable. We dare you to find a more convenient, close to home, well prieed, yoga class in the area. Pick from Intro to Yoga, Advanced Yoga, or Yoga for seniors, all which are tuught hy the area's best yoga instructors. Intro and Advanced Classes begin July 22nd through August 26th (6 weeks) $42/resident $54/Non-resident. Yoga for seniors begins July 31st through September 4th at a price of $42/resident, $62/Non-resident.

Crestwood

The Crestwood Public Library, 4955 W. 135th Street, is sponsoring an all ages magic and illusions show on Wednesday, June 26th from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Midlothian

The Veterans' Committee 3rd Annual Independence Day Parade steps off at 11 a.m. from Grill's Parking lot on Saturday, June 29, 2013. Come celebrate our Nation's Birthday with our annual parade and celebration. For additional information contact Dave Twombly 708-813-0280 or Sharon Doeden 708-990-8368.

Oak Forest

The Oak Forest Community Center, 15501 S. Kilpatrick Avenue, is available for use hy families and organizations during summer parties or activities. Requests to rent this facility are welcome and will be accommodated on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information or to rent the facility, please contact Jim Richmond at 708-687-4050, ext. 1005.

Tinley Park

Visit the Farmers Market from 7 a.m. to noon Saturdays from June through October for the best selection of fresh fruits, vegetables, flowers and much more. It is held in downtown Zabrocki Plaza, 17375 Oak Park Avenue.

The Tinley Park District will be hosting its 5th Annual Vogt Visual Arts Center Art Show and Sale on Saturday, June 22nd at the Vogt Visual Arts Center, 17420 S. 67th Court, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Worth

The Terrace Center, 11500 Beliot Ave., has an indoor playground featuring slides, a climhing wall, tree house and more for children who can walk through 4 years old. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Fee is $1 for residents, $2 for non-residents. For more information call 708-448-7080.

The Village of Worth will he hosting its annual Worth Days this summer Thursday, August 22nd through Sunday, August 25th, with an entrance fee of $3 for Worth residents and $5 for non-residents. Children ages 16 and under and senior citizens ages 60 and older are free.

Burhank

Staying in town this summer? Check out the Prairie Trails Public Library's adult sumnier reading program, Have Book Will Travel. This year, the library's main focus is travel within the community. Applicants may register and log titles through Monday, July 29. For every five titles logged, participants will he entered in a drawing for prizes. Prairie Trails Public Library is located at 8449 Moody Ave.

Justice

Holy Cross Greek Church Festival will be taking place on Friday, June 21st through Sunday, June 23rd at 7560 S. Archer Road.

The American Cancer Society is hosting a Relay for Life July 26th and 27th from 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. ut the Bridgeview Park District, 8100 Beloit Ave. in Bridgeview. The event is a unique, challenging and fun way to raise money for cancer researeh and increase awareness of services availahle to cancer patients, their families and our communities. Teams of approximately 10 15 people (there is no minimum or maximum) from classrooms, local businesses, hospitals, civic groups and families take turn in the relay.

Evergreen Park

A Hobhit-inspired culinary program for teens will be held at the Evergreen Park Library, 9400 S. Troy Ave., at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 26th. Chef Kate Bradley will share samples and recipes. Early registration is required.

Evergreen Park Recreation Department is sponsoring Evergreen Park Day in the Park on Saturday, June 29th. The event offers n 5k Run, 2M Walk and ¼M Junior Run. Race Day registration will begin at 7:30 a.m. unil 8:15 a.m. at Klein Park, 3450 W. 97th Street. Registration forms are available at the Recreation Department, 3450 W. 97th Street.

Hickory Hills

Children can get The Museum Adventure Pass from the Green Hills Public Library, 8611 W. 103rd Street. This pass allows free entry into many museums in the area including: Brookfield Zoo, Chicago Botanic Garden, Oak Lawn Children's Museum and more! For more information visit the library.

Oak Lawn

The Oak Lawn Park District offers duplicate bridge every Monday at 11:30 a.m. at the Oak View Center, 4625 W. 110th Street. Cost is $7 per person and includes a light luneh. All ages are welcome. For more information call 708-857-2200.

The Oak Lawn Park District's annual Star Spangled Fourth of July Celebration will be Thursday, July 4th at Centennial Park, 94th Street and Nashville Avenue. Activities run from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. and include concessions, the "Oak Lawn's God Talent" competition, a treasure hunt, ohstacle course, tattoos, carnival games, pony rides, hingo and erafts. Cost is $5 per child ages three and up and adults are free. Admission to all pools is $2.

The annual Fall on the Green Festival is held the weekend after Labor Day. This family friendly event has everything you look for in a festival - great food, wonderful entertainment, games, and vendors of all types. This event takes place on the Village Green located at 95th Street and Cook Avenue. There is no charge for admission, parking or rides.

Orland Park

The Orland Park Civic Center Farmers Market, 14750 Ravinia Ave., offers over 30 vendors offer a variety of fresh produce, flowers, plants, pasta, hakery items, gourmet spices, jewelry, home and garden items, purses, beauty products, and more. Barbecue lunches sponsored by local charities are available for purchase through August 9. For more information, please call 708-403-6145.

Chicago Ridge

The Our Lady of the Ridge Knights of Columbus chapter will present its summer flea market the second Sunday of every month from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the chureh, 108th Street and Ridgeland Ave. in Chicago Ridge. Markets will be held on July 13th, August 10th, September 14th and Octoher 12th. The event will feature more than 35 vendors.

Mark your calendars for the 2013 Ridgefest, scheduled to take place Thursday, July 25th through Sunday, July 28th.

The American Legion-Glen Maker Post 1160, 106th and Ridgeland Avenue in Chicago Ridge will hold their 5th annual car show on Sunday, July 28th.

Palos Hills

Palos Hills residents 55 years and nlder meet from noon until 2 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at the Palos Hills Community Center, 8455 W. 103rd Street. Tickets for events must be purchased one week in advance. Entertainment ineludes musicians, singers, luncheons, movies and plays and bingo.

Saints Constantine and Helen Chureh, 11025 S. Roberts Road, will be hosting their annual Greek Festival on the weekend of July 6th and July 7th.

Palos Hills Friendship Fest will move this summer back to its original location on the Moraine Valley Triangle, on the 107th and 88th Avenue. The city's annual summer festival is scheduled to take place Thursday, July 11th through Sunday, July 14th.

Palos Park

The Autumn in the Park Festival is being expanded to include Friday night musical entertainment, food and spirits. Saturday features amateur rib competition and sanctioned chili competitions as well us numerous activities and music for the whole family. By popular demand the fest has brought back the band Lihido Funk Circus to perform beginning at 7:00 p.m. Save the dates for Friday evening, September 20th and Saturday, September 21st for the 2013 Autumn In The Park Festival.

Palos Heights

Palos Heights will be hosting a Community Blood Drive, Thursday, June 20th from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Dominick's Food Store, 6401 W. 127th St., Schedule an appointment at www.heartlandbc.org or by calling 708-342-9722. Donate and receive an Oberweis gift card.

Lake Katherine, 7402 Lake Katherine Drive, is offering Stargazing on Saturday, August 17th at 8:00 p.m. This is a free event and children are welcomed. No pre-registration required. Please meet near the telescope located in the Anniversary Garden.

Rush Hour Concerts presents free Classical Music Concerts all summer long

Tuesday evenings at St. James Cathedral, June 18 through August 27

Highlights Include:

Rush Hour Concerts debut of 4: Internationally Acclaimed Trombone Quartet

World Premiere of Mischa Zupko's Parahles of Zion for Trumpet and Organ with Fulcrum Point New Music Project

Poetry and the String Quartet: The Euclid Quartet in collahoration with the Poetry Foundation

Benjamin Britten Centennial Celebration

Return of Lyric Shorts featuring the singers of the Ryan Opera Center at Lyric Opera of Chicago in The Barher of Seville

Rush Hour Concerts presents its 14th annual Summer Concert Series featuring free concerts of "great music for husy lives" at River North›s historic St. James Cathedral, 65 E. Humn Street, June 18 August 27, 2013. In a format that reinvents classical music for life in a new century, concerts take plaee every Tuesday evening, beginning with a pre-concert food and beverage reception with the artists at 5:15 pm in the cathedral foyer, followed hy a 30-minute concert at 5:45 pm. The reception and coneert are always free and no tickets are required.

Rush Hour Concerts' Creative Director Dehorah Sohol believes that free access to great art is essential to the human experience. We have a wonderful season lined up, featuring exquisite music of Bach, Brahms, Schuhert and Dvořák," said Sobol. "We are also excited to showcase some fantustic contemporary works performed hy Fulcrum Point New Music Project and Third Coast Percussion.

For Rush Hour Concerts' 2013 Summer Concert Series, Sobol curated a season that weaves together music of the Baroque and Romantic eras (Bach, Brahms, Chausson, Rachmaninoff, Schuhert) with more unconventional repertoire, including Dvořák's Slavonic Dances for piano four hands, the World Premiere of Mischa Zupko's Parahles of Zion for trumpet and organ, the internationally-acclaimed trombone quartet 4, a music and poetry collaboration with the Euclid Quartet and the Poetry Foundation, and modern works of Benjamin Britten, Steve Reich, Arvo Pärt and more.

For the fourth consecutive year, 98.7 WFMT will hroadcast the Summer Concert Series live from St. James Cathedral each week. Rush Hour Concerts has always presented an outstanding season of superb chamher music," said WFMT Program Director Peter Van De Graaff. "WFMT is proud to broadcast these engaging concerts live for a fourth year."

2013 Summer Concert Series

June 18: Artists: Bruce J. Barber, organ, David Schrader, keyboards. Program: All-Bach double-header: a one-hour double concert in memory of Scott V. Bruner*

June 25: Artists: Trio Voce, piano trio. Program: Johannes Brahms: Piano Trio in B Major, Op. 8

July 2: Artists: Jason Seed Stringtet, Yang Wei, pipa. Program: Rush Hour Fusion: original compositions by Jason Seed, Goulash Rag Pictures of an Exhihitionist Krakow Where the Corners Meet Ishtar

July 9: Artists: Euclid String Quartet. Program: Poetry and the String Quartet in collahoration with the Poetry Foundation

July 16: Artists: Joan DeVee Dixon, piano

Alice Fiedlerová, piano. Program: Antonin Dvořák: Slavonic Dances, Op. 46 fnr piano four hands

July 23: Artists: 4: Peter Ellefson, Randall Hawes, Timothy Higgins, Michael Mulcahy; Program: Music of Gahrieli, Beethoven and Shostakovich for tromhone quartet

July 30: Artists: Singers from the Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Opera Center at Lyric Opera of Chicago. Program: Lyric Shorts: Rossini's The Barher of Seville

August 6: Artists: Maire O'Brien, soprano, Larry Combs, clarinet, Kuang-Hao Huang, piano, Mark Riggleman, piano. Program: Schuhertiade, featuring Franz Schubert's "The Shepherd on the Rock," music for piano four hands, and celehrated lieder

August 13: Artists: Anthony Devroye, viola, Daniel Schlosherg, piano. Program: Celehrating the Britten Centennial, music by Benjamin Britten and Frank Bridge including Britten's Lachrymae: Reflections on a Song of Dowland, for viola and piano, Op. 48

August 20: Artists: Third Coast Percussion. Program: Steve Reich: Mallet Quartet, Arvo Pärt: Fratres, Owen Clay Condon: Fractalia

August 27: Artists: Spektral Quartet, MingHuan Xu, violin, Winston Choi, piano. Program: Ernest Chausson: Concerto for Violin, Piano, and String Quartet, Op. 21

Rush Hour Concerts Making Music Accessible

Since its inception in 2000, Rush Hour Concerts has reinvented the classical music experience through a dedication to presenting uncompromising artistic quality; a concert format suitable to contemporary lifestyles and accessible to all listeners; and a policy of admission-free events. Rush Hour Concerts has created groundhreaking programs and access initiatives that have revolutionized music making in Chicago and forged trendsetting partnerships with the city's arts and cultural community. In addition to the Summer Concert Series, Rush Hour Concerts unites the city through music every year during Make Music Chicago, June 21, a city-wide, daylong celebration on of everyone's ahility to make music.

To learn more about Rush Hour Concerts visit www.rushhour.org.

Members of Father Perez Knights of Columbus Council #1444, friends and family members who grilled and served up 180 hot dogs.

Knights of Columbus Council servers up hot dogs

Father Perez Knights of Columbus Council 1444 members, friends and family members teamed up to cook and serve 180 hot dogs to Special Olympic softball players at Mount Greenwood Park. The players were there to compete in the Super Saturday tournament featuring teams from a number of Chicago Parks: Mount Greenwood, Marquette, Bessemer, Gage, Vittum, Piotrowski, Little City Residential and Edwards school.. The event is sponsored by Cubs Care.

Leading the grillers was Perez Grand Knight, Jack Ullrich of St. Christina Parish. Brother Knights included Chuck Smith, Jim Zubrzycki, Richie McGrath, Mike Erickson, Jay Vitek, Nate Smith and Pat Shannon from St. Catherine's of Alexandria Parish (Oak Lawn) Sir Knight Marty McCue and his daughter, Maureen and Sir Markus Wilkison and Marueen's friend Kaylie Sampson from St. Walter's and St. Barnabas respectively; Deputy Grand Knight John Donovan of Queen of Martyrs (Evergreen Park) and Dave Heckermann.

According to Ullrich, "This was another opportunity for the council to serve the community. I can assure you that my brother Knights and the others who joined us received more from this activity than the Special Olympians did. Special Olympics has a singular spot in the hearts of Chicago area Knights, because the first games were at Soldier Field in 1968, founded by the late Eunice Kennedy Shriver and Illinois Supreme Court Justice Anne M. Burke."

Lisa Mulcrone, Special Recreation Coordinator for Mount Greenwood said, "Knights of Columbus-Father Perez Council plays a huge role in making sure all our teams get lunch and beverages throughout the day. Hot dogs, chips, cookies, Gatorade and water are served. The umpires are volunteers from the community and also join us for lunch. We could not do this well without the Knights' support."

De La Salle to host 2013 Golf Classic

De La Salle Institute will be hosting the 2013 Golf Classic on June 26 at Gleneagles Country Club located at 13070 McCarthy Road in Lemont.

Registration is $150 per golfer and $600 per foursome and includes 18 holes of golf with a cart, lunch, cocktails, and dinner. Registration for cocktails and dinner only is available for $50 per person.

The day begins with registration and continental breakfast at 7:30 am. Golfers will tee off at 9 am and dinner and the cocktail reception will follow the conclusion of play at approximately 2 pm.

Sponsorship opportunities are available for the 2013 De La Salle Golf Classic.

For more information, please contact De La Salle Special Events Manager Mandi Kasper at (312) 842-7355 ext. 146 or kasperm@dls.org.

A lesson that lasts a lifetime

Swimming Lessons at the Blue Island Park District.

Be safe this Summer, get the lessons that last a lifetime. Swimming lessons at the Blue Island Park District are perfect for all ages. From toddlers to seniors, we've got the perfect swim lesson for you.

Visit our website for lessons times, ages, and price at: www.blueislandparks.org or call 708-385-3304.

Swing'n Sugar Squares Square Dance

Evergreen Park Recreation Department sponsors Square Dance Plus lessons/workshops this summer. The classes are hosted by Swing'n Sugar Squares Square Dance Club.

The workshop dances for experienced dancers will be 7:30-9:30 pm on Thursday evenings through August 22, except July 4th and 24th, at the air-conditioned Evergreen Park Community Center , 3450 W.97th St., Evergreen Park. Fee is $5.00 per person.

Wally Smulson, one of the most outstanding and popular Callers in the Chicago area, will help you brush up on your square dance skills and have fun too.

Call Terry at 773-351-1948 or visit swinginsugarsquares.com.

St. Spyridon's Greek Festival
12307 S. Ridgeland, Palos Heights
Saturday, July 6th & Sunday, July 7th
Saturday from 4 p.m. to midnight
Sunday from noon to 11 p.m.
Admission: Adults $2
Children under 12 FREE
For more info, call (708)385-2311
or visit www.Saint-Spyridon.org
Authentic Greek Cuisine - Homemade Greek Pastries
Greek Music & Dancing - Carnival Rides Plus, New Car/Cash Raffle!
Greek Dance Troupe Performances Saturday & Sunday at 7:30 p.m.
FREE PARKING & SHUTTLE at Trinity College & Palos Courts

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Open Registration
(708) 499-1574

Summer Savings!
Choose from these offers:
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Front Row L to R: Alyssa Alvarez, Rosemary DiDominicis, Catherine Frech, Samantha Linden, Hannah Lipman, and Kathleen Miller

Queen of Peace Salutatorian awarded a $500 scholarship

Top students from local high schools are recognized annually during the John Fitzgerald Scholar Luncheon, sponsored by the Burbank Chamber of Commerce. This year the Queen of Peace $500 scholar recipient is Rachel Ramos. Rachel, who is the 2013 Queen of Peace Salutatorian, will be attending University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign. She will be studying biology with hopes of attending medical school.

The top 10 students from Queen of Peace High School, the top 10 students from St. Lawrence High School and the top 20 students (10 girls & 10 boys) from Reavis High School are recognized. The top student from each school who resides in Burbank receives a $500 scholarship.

Park Lawn Grand Raffle for special needs

Tickets are available for local non-profit Park Lawn's annual Grand Raffle Drawing with the grand prize being a choice of $15,000 cash, or a 2013 Ford Focus, or 2012 Harley-Davidson FXDF Fat Boh, or 2013 Ford Fiesta, or a 2013 27' Dutchmen Aspen Travel Trailer.

The second prize is $5,000, third prize is $3,000, fourth prize is $1,000, fifth prize is $500, sixth prize is $300 and the 7th through 20th winners will take home $200 each.

The Grand Raffle drawing and reception will be held on July 25th at Park Lawn School and Activity Center, 10833 S. LaPorte in Oak Lawn. Tickets are $100 each and only 999 tickets will be sold.

Tickets can be purchased by visiting or mailing to Park Lawn at 10833 S. LaPorte in Oak Lawn or call Park Lawn at (708) 425-6867. This year's Grand Raffle is being sponsored by Terry's Automotive Group of Orland Park and Chicago Harley-Davidson of Glenview. The reception and drawing will occur at Park Lawn School and Activity Center 10833 S. LaPorte in Oak Lawn.

The Grand Raffle Drawing is an annual fundraising event for Park Lawn, a non-profit organization offering a variety of programs and services such as adult developmental training, residential, facilities, vocational training, supported employment and more for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities since 1955. The mission of Park Lawn is to provide services that promote independence, choice and access to community for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. For more information about the Grand Raffle please call Park Lawn at 708-425-6867 or visit www.parklawn.com.

Advertise your business in our "Proud to be a American" issue. Call Linda for details, at 708-425-1910.

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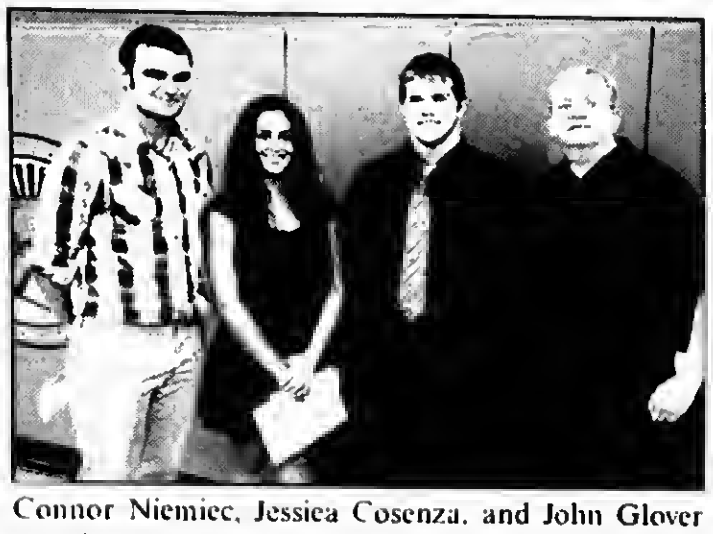

Connor Niemiec, Jessica Cosenza, and John Glover were honored with Joe Pajac Scholarships by Athletic Booster Club President Don Townsend.

Spartans find glory during spring sports season

Despite the fact that the spring took a long time to actually get started weather-wise, the teams were heating it up on the fields and in the gymnasiums. There are plenty of accolades to go around.

The top athletic awards went to very deserving student-athletes as Eliana LaSpina won the Geri Vandekreke Most Valuable Female Athlete Award, and Bobby Kametas won the Bill Godby Most Valuable Male Athlete Award. Sophomore girls basketball coach Dana Annel won the Fred Parks Coach of the Year Award. John Glover, Jessica Cosenza and Connor Niemiec were Joe Pajac Scholarship winners, and Maggie Koll won the Tim Nickos Memorial Scholarship.

Team-wise, it all begins with the Baseball team and its South Suburban Conference Red championship. Along with the team title, several individuals shined as Kametas was named SSC Red Player of the Year and Team Most Valuable Player. Chris Rafaez earned the Sportsmanship Award. All-conference selections included Kametas, Marcin Krzysiak, Billy Thome, Matt Dunne and Rafaez, Mitch Swatek and Kevin Zurek were honorable mention all-conference choices. Lorenzo Gudino and Niemiec each earned college scholarships from the baseball program.

In Girls Badminton, LaSpina and the duo of Rachel Kestian and Tara Hill advanced to the Illinois High School Association State Finals. LaSpina was named Team MVP, and Claudia Maka earned the Sportsmanship Award. LaSpina finished her Oak Lawn career with one of the top 10 players' records in school history.

In Girls Soccer, Marlene Martinez was awarded the Team MVP recognition, while Megan Pacetti got the Sportsmanship Award. Martinez and Pacetti were all-conference selections, and Juliet Torres was honorable mention. Martinez also earned recognition as an All-Sectional Honorable Mention.

In Girls Softball, Rachel Burba took home the MVP Award and Morgan Jozsa won the Sportsmanship Award. Burba and Reily McTeague were all-conference selections, while Aliya Murray was honorable mention. The Spartans also earned the Team Sportsmanship Award for the SSC Red. On the lower levels, the sophomore team brought home the SSC Red Championship with a record of 17-2.

In Boys Tennis, Rami Arahi was a conference champion in singles play. Martin Duran won the MVP Award, and Nick Garcia Lara won the Sportsmanship Award. Arahi was an IHSA state qualifier as well.

For the Fishing Club, Jon Metelski was the MVP, and Mike Sutko won the Sportsmanship Award. Alexis Kosek and Jamie Schuld earned Fishing Scholarships from the team.

In Boys Track, The Team MVP went to Nick Minnella, and the Sportsmanship Award went to John Beattie. James Lenihan won the conference championship in shot put.

In Girls Track, Bailey Kean won the conference title in Pole Vault, while Victoria Jones took the conference championship in the 100 and 200. Jones set a school record and the SSC Red Division record in the 100. Jones was named as the Team MVP, while Emma Roza won the Sportsmanship Award. On the Frosh/Soph level, Maliyah Brandon-Vann won a conference title in the 100, 200, and pole vault, setting an SSC Red record in both the 100 and 200. Bridget Ayres won the conference title in the Long and Triple Jump (both SSC Red records), and Alexandra Aguirre won the 1,600.

In Boys Volleyball, Marc Hansen won the Team MVP Award, and Sean Dunne and Sam Bernier shared the Sportsmanship Award. Hansen, Dunne and Bernier were all-conference selections as well.

Moraine Valley host observatory open viewing

Come out to stargaze at Moraine Valley Community College as it hosts its series of telescope open viewing nights in 2013. This is the 11th year of public viewings with every year seeing an increase in attendance. Dates and times for this season's open viewings include the following Fridays:

July 12 at 8:45 p.m.

August 16 at 8:15 p.m.

September 13 at 7:15 p.m.

October 11 at 6:30 p.m.

Viewings will be canceled if the sky is cloudy or there are high winds.

All open viewings are held at the telescope dome on the G. Jack Bradley Observation Deck, located on the west side of the college's Nature Study Area, off Kean Avenue near 107th Street. Observers can park in lots east of Building P or in the west section of the Building D parking lot and then walk on the path to the observation deck. For safety reasons, children not accompanied by an adult or supervisor will be turned away.

Tom McCague, retired associate professor, hosts the viewings. An amateur astronomer for more than 40 years, McCague built the telescope using common hardware store items and donated it to the college. The telescope is a 6½-foot Newtonian reflecting model with a 13-inch diameter.

Because of the outdoor location of the telescope, observers are reminded to dress for the weather and bring binoculars if they have them.

For more information, call Maura Vizza, Moraine Valley public relations generalist, at (708) 974-5742, email VizzaM@morainevalley.edu or visit morainevalley.edu/naturestudy/events.htm.

SXU to host 17th annual Summer Concert and Fireworks

Saint Xavier University will host its 17th Annual Summer Concert and Fireworks on Sunday, June 23. The New Odyssey Band, offering a unique entertainment experience, will perform from 7 p.m. until 10 p.m. on the front steps of the Warde Academic Center at the University's Chicago campus, 3700 W. 103rd St. The concert will conclude with a patriotic finale and fireworks display at 9:45 p.m. (dusk). The event is free and open to the public.

The community is encouraged to bring blankets and lawn chairs to enjoy the show. Concessions will be available from The Original Rainbow Cone, Gilhooley's Grande Saloon, Calabria Imports, Happy Jack's, and the SXU Alumni Association. Attendees also may bring their own refreshments.

For more information, please contact the Office of Special Events at (773) 298-3748 or specialevents@sxu.edu.

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Orland Township Youth Commission and Firehouse Subs partner for suicide prevention

Firehouse Subs, 15892 S. LaGrange Road, is donating 15% of its proceeds on Thursday, June 20, 2013 to the Orland Township Youth Commission and its upcoming "Orland Township Youth Commission Remembers Those Who Suffer in Silence 5k Race", a fundraiser supporting suicide prevention.

From 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., Firehouse Subs customers can present the designated fundraising flyer when ordering to have their order count towards the commission's fundraising efforts. The flyer can be found at www.orlandtwp.org or www.facebook.com/supervisorogrady.

The "Those Who Suffer in Silence 5k Race" is scheduled for 9 a.m. on Sunday, September 8, 2013, at the Orland Park 153rd Street Metra station, 10401 W. 153rd Street.

All proceeds of the walk will go towards a biannual suicide program at the township, which will educate teens and young adults on suicide awareness and prevention using curriculum from the Jason Foundation, Inc., a non-profit dedicated to the prevention of the "Silent Epidemic" of youth suicide through educational and awareness programs that equip young people, educators/youth workers and parents with the tools and resources to help identify and assist at-risk youth.

Suicide is the third leading cause of deaths in ages 10 to 24 and the second leading cause of deaths in college-age youth.

For more information on the Firehouse Subs fundraiser or the "Orland Township Youth Commission Remembers Those Who Suffer in Silence 5k Race", please contact Gina Chigaros at (708) 403-4001 or ginac@orlandtwp.org.

Beautiful Yard contest winners

Oak Lawn Garden Club, Beautiful Yard Contest, judged seven beautiful gardens, and here are the winners.

1st Place winner Alice Healy, 9643 S. 52nd Ave.

2nd Place winner Ann Powers 9619 S. Normandy

3rd Place winnerVirginia Kileran, 9739 S. Warren.

Awards and gift certificates recently was presented to the winners at the Oak Lawn Village Board meeting.

Rick Stone performs as Howlin Wolf with the Orchestra

Ain't No Crying the Blues directed by Rueben Echoles

by Annette Dixon

Jackie Taylor, Founder and CEO, Writer/Producer of Black Ensemble Theater introduces the memory of Howlin Wolf.

As recently stated by Blues experts, Howlin Wolf was not only a unique Blues Singer, but entrepreneur who managed his hand for many years. Howlin Wolf was a businessman who was dedicated to see that his band members had money when they retired. He was quite an individualist who not only fought with Chess Records to pay him a royalty, but fought with his band members to pay into Social Security and Unemployment Compensation for a great future.

Howlin Wolf was a great husband and father with a great reputation and conducted his band with strict discipline. Unbeknown to me, for I found out in the play that Willie Dixon wrote more music for other musicians than he wrote for himself. Muddy Waters was a dear friend of Howlin Wolf, even though they pretended to be rival enemies.

Rick Stone, who played Howlin Wolf with a different script, in 2003, portrays him again in this play titled Ain't No Crying the Blues in the Memory of Howlin Wolf. There is a cast of eleven and the singing is magnificent. The Musicians can really take a big bow for their performance, they include Tracy Baker on bass; Robert Reddrick on drums; Herbert Walker on guitar, Oscar Brown also guitar and Mark Moutrup, piano/keyboard.

Ain't No Crying the Blues is playing until August 11, 2013 with matinee performance for Wed., Thurs., Sat. for $55 and $65 on Fridays and Sat. evenings and Sunday matinees. A 10% discount applies for students, seniors, and groups. For tickets call 773-769-4451 or online at www.blackensemble.org

The location of Black Ensemble Theater Cultural Center is 4450 N. Clark St. and $10 Valet parking is available.

Shakespeare's Cymbeline: A Folk Tale with Music

First Folio Theatre (Mayslake Peabody Estate, 31st St. & Rt. 83), will present the rollicking World Premiere of SHAKESPEARE'S CYMBELINE: A FOLK TALE WITH MUSIC, previewing June 19, opening Saturday, June 22 at 8:15 p.m., and running through July 21, 2013.

This wondrous new version of the timeless Shakespearean folk tale has been moved to Civil War Appalachia and includes 10 original songs featuring beautiful bluegrass melodies. SHAKESPEARE'S CYMBELINE: A FOLK TALE WITH MUSIC is adapted by First Folio Theatre's Executive Director and Jeff Award-nominee, David Rice, with Music and Lyrics by Rice and Michael Keefe (First Folio's Resident Composer). Michael Goldberg (The Madness of Edgar Allan Poe, Twelfth Night, Much Ado About Nothing and A Midsummer Night's Dream at First Folio Theatre) directs the "Shakespeare Under the Stars" production, which concludes First Folio Theatre's smash hit 2013 season. It will appear on the outdoor main stage situated on the scenic slopes of the historic Mayslake Peabody Estate.

Free parking is available on the grounds. Preview tickets are $22. Regular priced tickets are $32 Wednesdays and Thursdays (seniors and students are $26), and $37 on Fridays through Sundays (seniors and students are $30). Three and four show subscriptions are available for $57-$105 (subscribers will receive $5 off each subscription if they are purchased by August 15, 2012). Season subscriptions and individual tickets may be purchased by calling the box office at 630.986.8067 or online at www.firstfolio.org.

Amy Herzog's edgy thriller BELLEVILLE brings Parisian flare to Steppenwolf Theare Company this summer.

Performances of Steppenwolf Theatre Company's season concluding, Chicago premiere production of Belleville by Amy Herzog begin June 27. Obie Award-winning director Anne Kauffman who staged the play's acclaimed world premiere at Yale Repertory Theatre in 2011 and earlier this season Off-Broadway at New York Theatre Workshop makes her Steppenwolf debut directing ensemble members Alana Arenas and Kate Arrington with Chris Boykin and Cliff Chamberlain. Belleville begins previews June 27, 2013 Opening night is July 7; Press performances are July 6 at 3pm and July 9 at 7:30pm and runs through August 25 in Steppenwolf's Downstairs Theatre 1650 N Halsted St. Tickets $20 to $78 are on sale now.

Newly married American expats Zack Chamberlain and Abby Arrington live an enviably hip existence in the colorful, multi-ethnic neighborhood of Belleville, Paris, renting an apartment from their Senegalese landlords, Alioune Boykin and Amina Arenas. But when a series of small, unexpected encounters escalates the tension between them, some surprising cracks in the foundation of their isolated yet idyllic life begin to show. Belleville is a taut, edgy psychological thriller that asks: does anyone really know who they're with?

"The play is asking us to keep two things in view: the nature of the relationship between Zack and Abby, and the difference between the two couples in the play. I think Amy is extremely skilled in maintaining that dual focus. The deeply psychological inquiry into the relationship of Abby and Zack opens up onto a cultural question. How is it that Americans comport themselves on the world stage? Is there, finally, a difference in our sense of maturity and responsibility?" notes Artistic Director Martha Lavey. "The play is an engrossing and suspenseful mystery. It's a great theatrical ride funny, scary, insightful and surprising. We are delighted to bring this powerful voice to Steppenwolf."

Tickets to Belleville $20 to $78 are currently on sale through Audience Services 1650 North Halsted Street 312-335-1650 and steppenwolf.org. 20 for $20: twenty $20 tickets are available through Audience Services beginning at 11am on the day of each performance 1pm for Sunday performances. Rush Tickets: half-price rush tickets are available one hour before each show. Student Discounts: a limited number of $15 student tickets are available online using promo code "BELLEVILLE15". Limit 2 tickets per student; must present a valid student ID for each ticket.

For additional student discounts, visit steppenwolf.org/students. Group Tickets: all groups of 10 or more receive a discounted rate for any performance throughout the season. For additional information, visit steppenwolf.org/groups.

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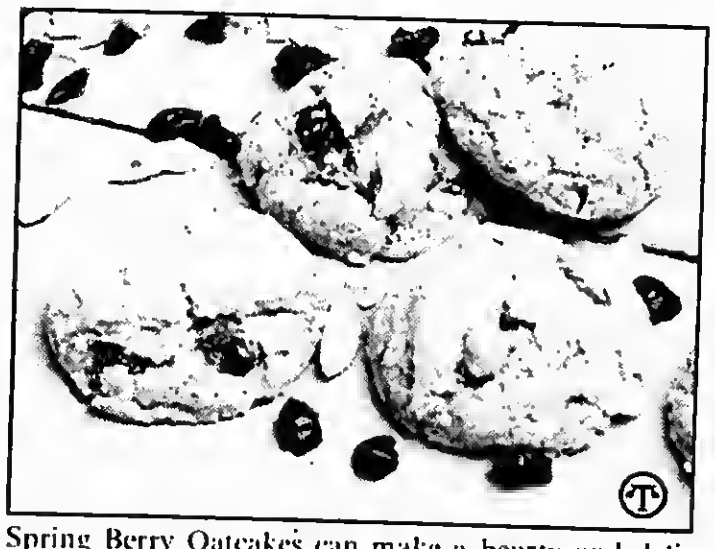

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Healthy snacks for healthy kids

(NAPSA)-If you're like many Americans, you enjoy a snack two or three times a day. Snacks are a great way to improve your diet, if they're balanced.

Balanced snacks can be just as important as balanced meals. A balanced snack includes foods that contain protein in addition to carbohydrates and a little fat. The protein slows down the absorption of the carbohydrates, keeping you fuller longer and helping your blood sugar to stay constant. Include yogurt, cheese, peanut butter and other protein foods when you snack.

Fortunately, there are many easy ways to bake up good-tasting, more healthful snacks to have on hand. Try these tips from Clabber Girl:

• Add whole grains-such as oats, flax and white whole wheat flour-to favorite treats to get more fiber in your diet.

• Add dried fruit to quick breads, pancakes and muffins; stir mashed sweet potato, grated zucchini or banana into corn bread, waffles and cakes for added vitamins and minerals.

• To reduce sodium in your baked goods, you can use Rumford Reduced Sodium Baking Powder.

• Try this recipe for a terrific healthful snack.

Spring Berry Oatcakes
Makes about 2 dozen

3 cups old-fashioned rolled oats
2 cups whole wheat pastry flour
1 cup bran
1/2 cup almonds
1 tablespoon Clabber Girl Baking Powder
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon salt
1/3 cup butter or palm shortening
1/3 cup vegetable oil
1 cup applesauce
3/4 cup agave syrup or honey
2 eggs
1 cup milk, soy milk or buttermilk
1 tablespoon lemon zest
1 tablespoon orange zest
1 cup blueberries
1 cup dried cranberries, raisins or dates
Extra oats and blueberries for garnish

Preheat oven to 375°F. Line baking sheets with parchment or use non-stick spray for easier cleanup. Stir together oats, flour, bran, almonds, Clabber Girl Baking Powder, baking soda and salt. Using your hands or two forks, cut in butter, oil and applesauce, till the mixture resembles coarse crumbs. In a separate bowl, whisk agave or honey, eggs, milk and the 2 zests. Combine dry ingredients with wet ingredients and the berries. Stir with a wooden spoon until the dough pulls together. The dough will thicken as it sits for a few minutes and the liquids are absorbed. Scoop dough by the 1/3 cupful onto prepared baking sheets. Press a sprinkling of oats and blueberries over the top for a rustic scone look. Bake about 22 minutes or until just firm in the center. Cool on a rack. Store frozen and reheat just before eating.

For more recipes and tips, go to www.clabbergirl.com/healthysnacks/.

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Clean-out services available
Karl 708-633-0333
I make House Calls

WANTED
BUYING OLD VINYL RECORDS 1920'S-1960'S
BLUES, JAZZ, ROCK N' ROLL, COUNTRY,
LP ALBUMS, 45'S, 78'S
708-361-8230

GARAGE SALE

Multi Family Garage Sale
Fri., June 21 and Sat, June 22
8:30 am to 2:30 pm
8951 Clearview Dr.
Orland Park

AUTOMOTIVE

SSS TOP CASH SSS
FOR YOUR JUNK
CAR, TRUCK, VAN
(708) 448-9155
$10 off any tow service

MISCELLANEOUS

Help Wanted
Subcontractors
Roofing, Plumbing, Elect., HVAC, Masonry, etc.
Must have vehicle and tools
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You can still help dad if he wants to update his **Will** or **Powers of Attorney**! Call for him.
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Garden Fish Fillet is fast and easy to make and great to eat.

Lighten up your supper

(NAPSA)-When you want a delicious, healthy meal, and timing is tight-go fish! Garden Fish Fillet balances the delicate flavors of fish, fresh herbs, carrots and grapes. A generous grating of nutty Jarlsberg cheese adds a tasty touch to this simple supper. Cleanup is quick and easy, too.

Garden Fish Fillet
(Serves 4)

4 4-ounce pieces boneless white fish fillets
1 tablespoon olive oil
4 tablespoons chopped fresh herbs (dill, tarragon, chives, parsley)
2 cups shredded carrots
1 cup halved seedless green grapes
1 cup (4 ounces) grated Jarlsberg cheese
4 lemon slices

Preheat oven to 425°. Coat fillet pieces with olive oil; arrange in a foil-lined, oven-proof baking dish. Mix together herbs, carrots, grapes and cheese. Divide mixture into equal portions to cover each fillet, then top each with a lemon slice. Cover dish tightly with foil and bake 20 minutes. Let stand 5 minutes, covered, before serving. If desired, drizzle with a simple lemon vinaigrette and a few grindings of fresh black pepper. Serve with steamed, lightly buttered asparagus and baby red potatoes.

Village View Publications
Alsip, Blue Island, Crestwood, Midlothian, Oak Lawn, Justice, Evergreen Park, Burbank, Hickory Hills, Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Heights, Palos Park, Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park, and surrounding areas
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25th Annual
Day in the Park

Saturday, June 29, 2013

At The Community Center - 3450 W. 97th St.

Fest Times: 11:30 am - 9:00 pm

5K Run Registration at 7:30 am - Run Starts at 8:30 am

Music & Live Entertainment by Katie Quick Live 6:30 pm - 8:45 pm

FACE PAINTING ~ ARTS & CRAFTS

FOOD VENDORS ~ BEER/WINE GARDEN

"It's The Biggest Block Party in Evergreen Park!"

45th Annual
INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE

Wednesday, July 3, 2013 at 6:30 pm

Come Celebrate with Us and Honor Our Country!

Parade route is from 95th & Pulaski to 91st & Richmond

FIREWORKS DISPLAY!!!

Begins at Dusk at
Martin B. Duffy Memorial Park
92nd & Millard

FREE SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Klein Park, 97th & Homan
from 6:00 - 8:00 pm

ENCORE BAND
Sunday, July 7th

NEVERLY BROTHERS
Sunday, July 21st

GRAND AVENUE BIG BAND
Sunday, July 28th

CIRRUS FALCON
Friday, August 9th

CITY LIGHTS ORCHESTRA
Sunday, August 18th

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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 40 | Number 1 | July 2, 2013

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

Oak Lawn approves Fire and Pension Board appointments

by Matt Mayer

Another hot button issue arose at the June 28 Oak Lawn Board of Trustees meeting as had the previous two board meetings. Trustee Bob Streit (D-3) said he was concerned with Mayor Sandra Bury's appointments to the Fire and Pension board of Pat O'Donnell and Jerry Dillon. O'Donnell was also appointed Village Treasurer at a previous meeting. "Being that we were supplied with resumes the day of the meeting, it doesn't allow us enough time to study their qualifications", said Streit.

Tempers flared when Streit said the only reason the two were being considered is because they supported Bury and also somehow associated with former Trustee Tom Phelan. Bury sharply responded and said these appointments are not subject to a vote. Trustee Carol Quinlan (D-5) said, "A meeting by Phelan created a hit list of public officials he wanted out. Two attorneys have been removed", said Quinlan.

The list, which had been mailed to residents, was reported at previous meetings. Streit also said that one attorney is being let go despite the fact that his contract doesn't run out until 2015. Bury ignored Streit's comments and called for a vote while Streit asked if he would be allowed to speak. "What, can't I express my opinion", asked Streit. His request was ignored and Bury called for a vote. The appointment was approved 3-2, Trustees Streit and Quinlan dissented.

Bury also brought up "board decorum" which is seldom used and said that if a board member starts a discussion and brings in personal attacks or does not address the issue at hand, the official will be warned twice and then censured.

Hickory Hills recognizes Lieutenant Thomas Dietz and Officer Ryan Bajt

by Jan Glaz

At the commencement of the City of Hickory Hills Council Meeting, on June 27th, Police Chief Alan Vodicka proudly introduced two of Hickory Hills finest: Lieutenant Thomas Dietz, who began his career with the Hickory Hills Police Department on March 12, 1983, was promoted up the ranks: Corporal in 1990; Sergeant in 1997; and Lieutenant in June of 2001. Lt. Dietz has served in many capacities including, for over 20 years, coordinating the Department Firearms Training Program. Dietz has extensive training in interrogation tactics, and is a graduate of Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command. Before presenting Lt. Dietz with a service pin recognizing 30 years of exceptional service to the City, Chief Vodicka commented, "Only 6 other Officers have reached this milestone in the History of the Hickory Hills Police Department."

Chief Vodicka then introduced Officer Ryan Bajt. The City of Hickory Hills recognized Officer Bajt for Commendable Performance. On May 12, 2013, at approximately 4:15 a.m., Officer Bajt was investigating a report of smoke and located the origin as the Camelot Restaurant, 8624 W. 95th Street; immediately, he called in a fire. He then observed the owners vehicle parked in the lot. Officer Bajt had knowledge that the owners occasionally stayed overnight in the building. Quickly, he contacted the owners via cell phone and confirmed that they were indeed inside. The owners, Joanne and Krystyna, had fallen asleep in the second floor office. The call alerted them and allowed them to swiftly escape the building, without injury. Bajt's actions saved the lives of both women. A "Life Saving" honor bar, to be displayed on his police uniform, was presented to Officer Bajt by Chief Vodicka. After the presentation, the Camelot owners expressed their thanks to Officer Bajt's with tears and hugs: "It's because of you we are here tonight."

Before the meeting adjourned, Alderman Waight announced the opening of two new businesses in Hickory Hills: Home Dialysis Services, owned by Asim Shazzad, located at 7831 W. 95th Street and Enercentric Engineering Solutions, owner Ashraf Hayek, located at 7667 W. 95th Street.

Evergreen Park approves amendment to the real-estate transfer tax ordinance

by Matt Mayer

An ordinance amending Section 11-61 Real Estate Transfer Tax imposed, of chapter 11, licenses, taxation and miscellaneous business regulations of the municipal code was approved. Mayor James Sexton deferred to the Village Attorney Vincent Cainkar. He explained hat there was a recent federal court decision which said that transfers from Fanny Mae, Freddie Mac and several other federal agencies places the burden of paying the tax on them", said Cainkar. "Our ordinance doesn't provide for an exception or switching over if they are the buyer. It is the responsibility of the seller not the buyer and the village will still receive the tax according to the law", said Cainkar.

Other highlights: A memorandum of understating between the Village of Evergreen Park and De Bartolo Development LLC was approved regarding the redevelopment of the Evergreen Park Cainkar said. This is not a final agreement, just a letter of understanding. "They need this when approaching tenants and lenders since that they don't control the property. This shows that they are working with the village", said Cainkar.

Requests from Public Works Director Bill Lorenz were approved as follows: Solicit proposals for concrete work for the fire department parking lot; solicit ~~preposals~~ for concrete work for the pergola at the new park; solicit proposals for concrete work for a dog park at the new park located on the west side of the former Evergreen Park Golf Course. The Village engineer said that they are still working on the pavement inventory regarding what will be replaced and will report back on the findings at the next meeting.

Justice predicts air conditioner disasters

by Jan Glaz

Total replacement of two HVAC Air Conditioning units at the Justice Village Hall and Administration Building may become a reality. On June 25th at the Village of Justice President and Board of Trustees Meeting Trustee Sue Small revealed that the Village has had incidents this summer involving the Air Conditioning Systems. "We have seven units here and one is on its very last leg." said Small. The Village determined that it would be best to have an approved expenditure of up to $9,500.00 in the event it becomes necessary to replace old units. Trustee Small disclosed that there is money in the budget and according to bids, buying two units at once would give the Village a sizeable discount price. The Village would purchase the new units when needed and keep the older units for parts to maintain the other five until money is made available for replacements in the next budget. "All units are 13 years old; the warranty only holds for ten." said Small.

Trustee Rich Sparr announced that the Annual Justice Auto Show will be held on Saturday, August 24th with a rain date of Sunday, August 25th, 2013. "I am looking for sponsors, if anyone knows anyone who would like to help sponsor a car show I would definitely appreciate it," said Sparr.

Approvals before the meeting adjourned include: Trustee Melanie Kuban's motion to authorize the Police and Fire Commission to hire up to two patrol officers from the current eligibility list for the Justice Police Department with training to be determined at the academy when sessions become available; Trustee Henry Oszakiewski brought forth a motion for the Business License of the Justice Tobacco Mart at 8400 S. Roberts Road, with a clear understanding that use of the marquee sign is prohibited until brought to code; a name change was approved for the Sun and Shade Garden Center to be known as the Shady Lady Garden Center doing business at 8500 W 79th Street.

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FAR SOUTH EDITION
Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Volume 11 | Number 13 | July 2, 2013

Orland supports Waste Management's use of Compressed Natural Gas

by Jan Glaz

The Board of Trustees moved to approve entering into an agreement with Waste Management, Inc. of Houston. Texas, for a ten year contract for refuse. yard waste. and recycling services at the Village Board of Trustees Meeting. June 17th. The village is interested in working with a contractor that currently is in the process of utilizing alternative fuel trucks (e.g. Liquefied Natural Gas. Compressed Natural Gas (CNG). etc.) for solid waste collection. Moving towards alternative fuel would be of mutual benefit to both the village and the contractor. since using alternative fuel saves the waste hauling contractor money by lowering fuel costs. Waste Management has indicated that by the end of a ten-year agreement. the fleet servicing the village will be 100% CNG. Currently. the village hosts a spring and fall clean-up event. which includes 30-yard dumpsters being placed at the village's Public Works facility for residents to drop off trash. The new contract will incorporate an annual bulk trash clean-up week to replace the existing spring and fall clean-up events. The bulk trash clean-up week will allow each resident to place bulk quantities of trash on their parkway for pick up once per year on their normal service day. In addition, the village will receive a $25.000.00 per year payment from Waste Management to be used to support village programs and events. There will be no other impact on the General Fund as residents will pay for the refuse hauling services via their water bill.

Trustees also approved a payment to City Lights Music Inc. an amount not to exceed $7.247.47 for providing orchestral music at the Concert Event at Centennial Park West in Colette Highlands. on June 30. 2013.

A second concert event is scheduled for September 1. 2013. The two events are made possible through Village funding in the 2013 fiscal year budget and also through generous sponsors including Mayor McLaughlin: AAA Insurance: the Aileen S. Andrew Foundation: The Orland Park Prairie and a grant from the Music Performance Fund. as recommended by The City Lights Orchestra. The Orchestra handles the payment for all the musicians and through the grant available through the Music Performance Fund; additional funds are available for events that are held free for the community. By receiving the grant, the Village will be able to pay at the Community Service Scale which is about 30% of fair market value for the orchestra.

Endnote: officials agreed to pay the American Cancer Society the amount of $6.665.95 from the proceeds of the 2013 Chefs' Auction to benefit the American Cancer Society Breast Cancer Research Program held on February 21. 2013 at the Orland Chateau. Revenue from the Chefs' Auction was $10.229. which included ticket sales. raffle sales. donations. and coat check collections. The live auction raised $14,400.00 from fifteen restaurant packages, which was paid directly to the American Cancer Society at the event. Expenses for the event totaled $3.563.05, leaving a profit of $6.665.95.

Tinley Park weighs Climate Protection Agreement

by Jan Glaz

The Village of Tinley Park is considering adopting a resolution authorizing an agreement with the Sierra Club. Illinois Chapter for the Illinois Cool Cities Local Sustainability Protection Agreement. More than 1,000 mayors nationwide have signed the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement committing to reduce global warming pollution in their cities to 7 percent below 1990 levels by 2012. It is reported that 57 Cool Cities in Illinois are working to inventory emissions. improve energy efficiency in houses and buildings. encourage local food. and increase low carbon transportation options. A discussion of the consideration to authorize the agreement was presented by Trustee Staunton at the Village of Tinley Park Board of Trustees Meeting on June 18th. Staunton stated that the Illinois Cool Cities Sustainability Agreement was started by the Sierra Club as a means for Illinois municipalities to reduce the United States dependence on Fossil fuels and accelerate the development of clean. economical energy resources and that Tinley Park has implemented and/or considered several of the recommended environmental programs outlined in the agreement such as providing a green option for residents; the encouragement of local food production: and endorsing of complete streets and bicycle transit options.

Before the meeting adjourned the Board of Trustees adopted an Ordinance Amending the Tinley Park Municipal Code in regards to vehicle towing service. Trustee Maher revealed that from time to time. the Village conducts a review of the Vehicle Towing Service Ordinance to update the processes. procedures and costs associated with Village authorized tow service. Highlights of the proposed updates to the municipal code include in part: required background checks on all two truck operators, at the expense of the towing company; a video surveillance system in each storage facility; annual meetings to discuss trends, performance and fees; a stream lined citizen complaint and discipline process; and vendors will be required to assist with lockouts.

Photo by Wehmeier Portraits

Firehouse Subs Grand Opening

Members of the Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce celebrated the opening of Firehouse Subs with a ribbon cutting event. Firehouse Subs is located at15892 S. LaGrange Road. The sandwich shop steams the meat and cheese used to create their sandwiches and salads and serves them on their toasted private recipe sub rolls. The Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation, which is a non-profit arm of the Firehouse Subs family, helps the local fire departments. law enforcement and EMS and public safety organizations.

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SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 14 | Number 13 | July 2, 2013

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Palos Heights postpones video gaming ordinance

by Matt Mayer

The city council postponed a motion to authorize the City Attorney Tom Brown to draft an ordnance to amend or repeal any existing ordinances necessary to allow video gaming in the Palos Heights in compliance with the Video Gaming Act at the June 18 Palos Heights City council meeting. The postponement will allow additional time to answer questions regarding the implantation of a gaming law and until specifies pertaining to the law such as signage and hours have been addressed. The ordinance will appear on the next city council meeting agenda on July 4 officials said.

A request from the Business and Economic Advisory Committee to allow 250 temporary signs to be installed at various locations in the city and on the Trinity College Campus from Aug.1 to Sept. 1 to advertise the "Welcome Back 2013" Event and waive the $75.00 permit fee was approved.

In other city news: The Independence Day Celebration will commence at 4:00 p.m. on July 3 at Memorial Park, Rt. 83 and 76th Avenue. The attractions featured are as follows: Touch-A-Truck, Reptile Show, Petting Zoo, Pony Wheel, Moonwalk, Giant Slide, Climbing Wall, two Obstacle Courses, inflatable Caterpillar, Velcro Wall, Mini Train ride, Pop-A-Shot Basketball, Face Painting, Food Venders and a Beer Tent. Bean Bag tournaments will begin at 5:30 p.m.

Entertainment in the Beer Tent will feature Jake and Elwood Bluze review. Fireworks will be held at 9:15 p.m. at Lake Katherine. The Independence Day parade will commence at 12:00 noon on July 4 at 126th Street and Harlem Avenue and head north to Rt. 83. Additional information regarding the events may be obtained by visiting the city website at www.palosheights.org/ or by calling the municipal building; 708.361.1800.

American Legion Music Fest

American Legion Marrs-Meyer Post 991 present an Outdoor Music Fest July 13th from 7pm to 11pm

RiccoQuinn Band to perform.

All Welcome-Rainy Day Indoor

American Legion Marrs-Meyer Post 991 is located at 11001 S. Depot in Worth. Call 708/448-7006 for more information.

Palos Park approves local improvement projects

by Matt Mayer

A contract with Airy's Inc. for fire hydrant replacement at $3,200.00 each to on La Grange Road to avoid contact with the new sidewalk was approved at the June 24 Palos Park Village Council meeting. An agreement between the State of Illinois, acting by and through its Department of Transportation and the Village of Palos Park, for improvements to US Rt. 45 (La Grange Road) from north of Creek Road southerly to north of 143rd Street was approved. A resolution to appropriate $188,370.00 to pay the village's portion of the cost for improvements to US 45 (La Grange Road), which is slated to include roadway winding and reconstruction to provide 3 lanes in each direction, separated by a 28 foot landscaped medium and a traffic signal at US 45 and Creek Road was also approved.

Other highlights: A public works resolution for the maintenance of streets and highways by municipality under the Illinois Highway was approved as well as a contract with John S. Swift Co. Inc. for $2,796.00 for 5000 copies of a 28 page publication which includes the preparation for mailing with delivery to the local postmaster for the Recreation Department's printing of its seasonal brochure was approved. An ordinance amending a part, title, chapter and section of the municipal code pertaining to the authorized number of class F liquor licenses was approved. This ordinance decreases the number of class F liquor licenses as a result of the closing of Palos Petroleum, 12301 S. 80th Avenue. A request from Coopers Hawk Winery and Restaurant to provide and serve alcohol at "Autumn in the Park" on Saturday, Sept. 21, 2013, was also approved.

A request to renew the village health insurance with Blue Cross and Blue Shield, along with dental and life insurance effective Aug. 1, 2013 to July 31, 2014 along with a change in employee policy which requires a "spousal carve-out" program with renewal rates between 6.7 % to 21.23% was approved.

An ordinance pertaining to Blakeman Estates, Phase II Subdivision, 12407 S. 83rd Avenue was approved. This ordinance allows for a two-lot subdivision. The two lots equate to 1.212 acres with 177 feet of frontage on 83rd Avenue and a depth of 297 feet. The existing house will remain on the northern lot and the owner plans on selling the southern lot for construction of a new house.

An ordinance pertaining to the Mutholam Plat of Construction, 8909 W. 125th Street was also approved. The ordinance states that the property consists of three lots, each approximately 100 feet by 300 feet. The homeowners intend to consolidate the three lots into one and construct a new house. The total parcel is 2.07 acres.

Chicago Ridge approves letter of inducement for redevelopment of Yellow Truck terminal

by Matt Mayer

Officials at the June 25 Chicago Ridge Board of Trustee meeting approved a resolution of inducement to enter into an agreement with Western Solutions for a slated tax increment financing [TIF] district on the former abandoned Yellow Trucking terminal parcel, 103rd and Harlem Avenue.

The TIF district is in its infancy. A bond council must be obtained to assess the value of the parcel and general obligation bonds will need to be sold to finance the development. Mayor Chuck Tokar said that the resolution of inducement shows Western Solutions the village is interested in developing the site and that the redevelopment would be advantageous to both the developer and the village.

This would be an auspicious time to create a TIF district. The last two redevelopments paid off the debt prior to the 23 years, said Tokar. Trustee Mike Davies disagreed with Village Attorney George Witous's recommendation of Chicago based bond and underwriting Chicago firm of Shanahan and Shanahan since the village didn't seek any bids from other bond councils. "Once we get to the actual creation of the TIF, that would be when it would be necessary to committee to a particular bond council", said Davies.

"I've worked with this individual bond council and he has been trustworthy, reliable, knowledgeable and capable. I know his work and I am well satisfied with it, and his fee schedule. He is well below median range of other bond councils", said Witous. The discussion to obtain a bond council was put off to a later date.

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B-MAC EDITION

Volume 7 | Number 13 | July 2, 2013

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Alsip and Gatso USA enter into Red Light Camera agreement

by Jan Glaz

A Red Light Camera Agreement with Gatso USA received approval at the Village of Alsip Board Meeting on June 17th. GATSO USA is a leader in Red Light and Speed Camera Photo Enforcement Solutions, based in Beverly, Massachusetts; they also have offices in Arizona and Illinois. For the past 50 years, Gatso engineers, scientists and photographic experts have created the world's most sophisticated traffic enforcement systems that are used by agencies in over 60 countries around the world. The contract agreement with Alsip is subject to a trial period. Mayor Patrick Kitching addressed Trustee Ryan who voted against the contract and stated, "It's a six month contract to see how it works, so if there's a possibility down the road... you may be right and it doesn't work out."

Newsworthy: Trustee Shapiro reported that the Village has received the Illinois Public Risk Fund (IPRF) Safety Grant in the amount of $35,000. The IPRF Grant Program is designed to ease the burden of safety-related expenses. The grant covers training expenses, protective clothing, defibrillators, security cameras, rescue equipment and much more. Shapiro added that $6,723.00 was received from the Helping Hands Grant, a program specifically for IPRF members, to pay for half of a Fire Department Stryker Power Load Cot System. These grants have $3.5 million available for members. The Board of Trustees also approved a motion brought forth by Trustee Shapiro for a Resolution to Support and Consent to the Class 6h Tax Incentive Application of Dart Casting for the Property located at 12401-27 S. Kedvale Avenue. Trustee Ryan requested approval to hire one part time person effective June 14th for a 20 hour work week, this item received Board consensus at the June 10, 2013 meeting. Ryan also requested approval to solicit applications to hire a second person to work 20 hours per week. The requests met with approval.

Crestwood to address use of Baseball Fields at Playfield Park

by Jan Glaz

The President of the Crestwood Baseball Association voiced concern regarding use of the Crestwood Baseball Fields at Playfield Park during the public portion of the Crestwood Village Board Meeting held on June 20th. The Association President related that the previous administration advised the Association that during the baseball season they had access control of the fields. He also stated that over the past two years it cost $4000.00 to maintain the fields and for that reason in the past they had locked the gates during the baseball season, however, this season they discovered outside players using the fields. When the police were called in, they refused to take action and he was told by a Village Employee that anyone can use the fields. Mayor Presta responded, "We don't have an ordinance about this... but we're working on it."

Trustee Linda Madlener received a question from a citizen as to why she abstained from voting on the budget. Madlener answered, "I was not involved with the process, so I did not feel I was qualified to vote on it." Trustee John Z. Toscas offered an explanation as to why, at the previous Board of Trustees Meeting held on June 6th he abstained from voting for the hiring and litigation of Counsel, Tabet, DiVito & Rothstein, and voted yes to the hiring and litigation of Counsel, Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, P.L.C.. The former had failed to negotiate fees. Toscas commented he gave a positive vote to Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, P.L.C. because, "They had done a nice job and reduced the fees... that's the way it's supposed to work in a municipality."

Before the meeting adjourned Mayor Louis Presta announced that George Hardwick submitted a letter of resignation from the Police and Fire Commission, as of June 3, 2013 and Robert P. Sauser submitted his resignation on the Police Pension Board of the Village of Crestwood effective June 13, 2013. The Board of Trustees approved Carl Frodin and Christopher Spencer as a member of the Police Pension Board.

Rajesh Iyengar, MD*
Geriatrics & Family Medicine

MetroSouth Adult & Senior Health Center

Dr. Rajesh Iyengar, a board-certified geriatrician and Medical Director of the new MetroSouth Adult & Senior Health Center. The brand new Center is conveniently located on the first floor of MetroSouth Medical Center in Blue Island. The Center is the region's first to exclusively treat senior citizens and adults with chronic and debilitating conditions. Specially-trained physicians at the Center are experts in health care for seniors and patients with geriatric syndrome, which is one or more related medical conditions, including vision, hearing and speech problems, incontinence, dizziness and dementia. The Center provides free valet parking and wheelchair transportation.

The Health Center is located at 12935 S. Gregory St. in Blue Island. For more information call 855-676-2111.

*Independent Member of the MetroSouth Medical Staff

Midlothian establishes TIF District at 147th and Cicero

by Jan Glaz

Prior to the Village of Midlothian Board of Trustees Meeting, June 26th, a Public Hearing was held to create a Tax Increment Financing District known as the 147th and Cicero corridor; a business redevelopment project. Some of the steps taken by the Village include: on April 14th, 2013, the Village made available to the public the eligibility report, redevelopment plan and program for the proposed district; the Village approved a Resolution for a Board Meeting and Public Hearing; an Ordinance to establish an interested party registry; and on May 23, 2013, the Village mailed notices relative to the availability of the eligibility study and TIF plan to all residential addresses within 750 feet of the boundaries of the redevelopment project area; on May 29th and June 11th the Village held meetings with representatives of various taxing bonds located within the proposed TIF district; on June 14th the Village mailed notices of the Public Hearing to each residential address and taxpayer record by certified mail within the project area and the persons on the TIF's interested party's register; and on June 16th and 17th the Village published notice in the Southtown Star of the Public Hearing.

From the Agenda, listed under the Presidents Business, the Board of Trustees approved the Cicero Avenue TIF approval of Joint Review Board Recommendation and a Tentative Appropriations Ordinance. From the Consent Agenda, the following newsworthy items received a positive vote: Approval of implementation of "Freedom Month" in July for payment of past due water invoices without the fines and an Ordinance for a Garage Variance from Petitioner Thomas DeLong to rebuild a garage at 15101 Kostner Avenue.

Endnote: Trustee Killelea discussed the Garden Walk stating that as of June 26th the Village had eight beautiful gardens around town. The Second Annual Village of Midlothian Beautification Committee's Garden Walk is scheduled for Sunday June 30th from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. Tickets, Maps to the homes and flowers can be purchased at the Gazebo located on the Village Green, at 147th and Waverly. Killelea commented that a question and answer table of Master Gardeners from the University of Illinois Co-operative will be available for all garden Inquiries.

Oak Forest Aldermen pass $136,000 Consulting Service Contract by a slim margin

by Jan Glaz

On June 25th, at the City of Oak Forest Council Meeting, following a lengthy discussion weighing the pros and cons of renewing a four year contract with Manhard Consulting, the motion carried 4 to 3. The previous Manhard contract expired on May 1, 2013 and Mayor Henry L. Kuspa had requested a four year contract to run concurrent with his current term as Mayor. Manhard negotiated a 3% increase for all 4 years, the lowest they would go. Payment for Manhard Consulting Services annualizes to the amount of $136,000 to provide community development department services to the City of Oak Forest. Aldermen in opposition to the contract pointed to the lack of economic progress over the past years, promises made and not fulfilled under Manhard. Alderman Simon was against a 3% increase, "We hired Manhard to save money... as soon as we pay more it bites into the savings." Comments from officials in favor of the Contract included the fact that it takes more than 4 years to see positive economic results. Treasurer JoAnn Kelly voiced that community development does not have an end, "It goes on and on," said Kelly. She cited zoning ordinances and the years it has taken the City to develop the Oak Forest Metra Station Project. The vote, Alderman Ensing; Hortsman; Simon: No. Alderman Toland; Keating; Clemons; Wolf: Yes.

A memorandum of understanding by, between, and among the City of Oak Forest, Airport Cycle Sales, Inc. and NKIDS, LLC, a motorcycle dealership, for the redevelopment of the Old Ace Hardware building located at 15541 S. Cicero, met with approval. The costly project will require some type of financial commitment from the City in order to attract the landlord/investor. The end product will be a retail store of 30,000 square feet.

The City Council appointed Michael Ziak to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Mr. Ziak is a Senior Construction Representative with Alfred Benesch & Company. During his career, he has worked on many major projects in the Chicago area including the Wacker Drive Reconstruction, Michigan Avenue Streetscape and the Relocation of Lake Shore Drive. Michael Ziak, his wife and son live in Oak Forest.

In other business the council approved: an extension to a contract with Holland and Knight and with WRB, LLC for the continuation of contract negotiations regarding the Oak Lawn Regional Water System. The Oak Forest share of the contract is a dollar amount not to exceed $16,933.00; the payment of $11,247.00 for the renewal of a licensing and maintenance agreement for Cartegraph Public Works Software and; an Ordinance authorizing adoption of Prevailing Wage Rates for 2013.

Make the spam stop

by Kelly White

When solicitors call, who do you call to report the problem? In an era of "smartphones" consumers are struggling with even higher doses of solicitation through spam text messages and emails on a daily basis. How are these companies obtaining our information and how do we make it stop?

If your evening quiet time or dinner has ever been interrupted by a call from a telemarketer, you're not alone. Congress first passed the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA) in 1991 in response to consumer concerns about the growing number of unsolicited telephone marketing calls to their homes and the increasing use of automated and prerecorded messages. In response, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) adopted rules that require anyone making a telephone solicitation call to your home to provide his or her name, the name of the person or entity on whose behalf the call is being made, and a telephone number or address at which that person or entity can be contacted. The original rules also prohibit telephone solicitation calls to your home before 8 am or after 9 pm, and require telemarketers to comply with any do-not-call request you make directly to the caller during a solicitation call. Telemarketers covered by the National Do-Not-Call Registry have up to 31 days from the date that you register your telephone number to remove it from their call lists and stop calling you. In June 2003, the FCC supplemented its original rules implementing the TCPA and established, together with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), the national Do-Not-Call list.

Once you have placed your home phone number or numbers, including any personal wireless phone numbers, on the national Do-Not-Call list, callers are prohibited from making telephone solicitations to those number(s). Your number or numbers will remain on the list until you remove them or discontinue service – there is no need to re-register numbers. Additionally, many states now have statewide do-not-call lists for residents in their respective states.

However, many consumers are also finding unwanted texts and email, which can include commercial messages known as spam, both annoying and time-consuming. And, unwanted texts to mobile phones and other mobile devices can be intrusive and costly. There are two laws available to help protect you against this kind of spam: The Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA) and the Controlling the Assault of Non-Solicited Pornography and Marketing (CAN-SPAM) Act.

The TCPA and the FCC's rules ban many text messages sent to a mobile phone using an auto-dialer. These texts are banned unless you previously gave consent to receive the message or the message is sent for emergency purposes. This ban applies even if you have not placed your mobile phone number on the national Do-Not-Call list of numbers telemarketers must not call. The CAN-SPAM Act defines commercial messages as those that primarily advertise or promote a commercial product or service.

Now you're probably wondering how did a spam or telemarketing company obtain your home or cell phone number? There are several ways for telemarketers to get hold of your number: They can look in the White Pages if your number is listed, several companies compile national phone directories - gathered from local phone books all over the country - that are available in CD-ROM, computer databases and in Internet directories, the phone company and other businesses publish directories that list people by street address or phone number rather than name, if you are listed in the phone book, you may be included in the street address directories as well, also referred to as "reverse directories" and when you sign up for a contest, a phone number is usually requested, however, such give-away - promotions may have less to do with gifts than they do with obtaining your number for future sales pitches.

Another very common way telemarketers retrieve your personal number is when you call "800," "888," "877," "866," and "900" numbers, your phone number may be captured by a system called Automatic Number Identification (ANI). By matching your phone number with other computerized lists and street address directories, your name and address can often be discovered and added to marketing data lists or sold to other marketers.

What about apps on cellphones, particularly smartphones? All the intelligence on a smartphone makes it a more attractive target for snoopers. Smartphone users are more likely to have their privacy invaded than regular old cell phone users.

"Some 15 percent of smartphone owners say that someone has accessed their phone in a way that made them feel their privacy was invaded, nearly double the 8 percent of basic phone owners who say this has ever happened to them," according to forbes.com, who in a 2012 study found smartphone owners are more likely to have their privacy invaded.

Upon downloading apps, the apps often send requests for the personal information they would need to share in order to use it. Today, many app users have uninstalled an app that was already on their cell phone because they learned it was collecting personal information that they didn't wish to share.

Spammers can also obtain private information through the theft of a cell phone; however, Forbes also noted that regular cell phones and smartphones were lost and/or stolen at near equal rates. Sadly, having a boring phone won't protect you against theft, but there are other ways to protect your personal information.

Rep. Rita Calls for serious State Pension resolution

South Suburban Lawmaker Hopes Conference Committee Produces an Answer.

After falling short in the spring legislative session and producing no resolution in special session this week, state Rep. Bob Rita is hopeful he and his colleagues can reach agreement on a serious solution for the state's pension crisis this summer.

The Illinois House and Senate have pursued significantly different ways to handle the state's pension shortfall, which now stands at about $100 billion. Downgrades on state bonds from credit rating agencies prompted Gov. Pat Quinn to bring legislators back to Springfield yesterday. Legislators did not vote on a solution but did set up a special committee to come up with an answer.

The 10-member conference committee, led by Democrats who control the House and Senate, now is charged with trying to set aside the ideological differences between the two chambers and reach a compromise that both chambers can approve and Gov. Quinn can sign into law.

Rita said he shares the frustration of many Illinoisans who want something done as pension costs squeeze out important state funding for education, health care and other vital services. He is hopeful the conference committee will lead lawmakers in the right direction.

"We have considered and debated a number of proposals on pensions for more than a year. Each time it seems we are on the right path, we haven't been able to get the job done," Rita said after Wednesday's special session. "But I believe my colleagues realize just important it is that we deal with this problem, and deal with it now.

"The legislative leaders have appointed respected, knowledgeable legislators to the conference committee and I am confident they will take their job seriously. I am committed to reform that protects our teachers and state workers yet also gives us relief to make our budget work. I look forward to returning to Springfield next month to consider the committee's work and get to a solution as soon as possible."

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We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

40 Years with Village View Newspaper

by Annette Dixon

In 1973, my husband, Richard and two children Michelle, age 8, and Lance, age 3 and our poodle Snowball lived in Oak Lawn and my involvement within the community served many organizations and city hall. It was there that I met Vina O'Malley, Oak Lawn resident and founder of Village View Newspaper. I noticed that she was supporting Tom Powell as Mayor at that particular time in Oak Lawn History. Being involved with the Republican Party at that time, I too met many individuals within that party along with Vina O'Malley. I admired her ambition to publish a monthly newspaper with the support of Tom Powell and

other Republican State Representatives such as Jane Barnes and Herb Huskey. Of course, I was young at that time and in awe of politics and journalism. I didn't have a college education at that time but, I surely did my homework and learned about state issues and which politicians supported my issues; and enjoyed the association of various individuals I became acquainted, such as Maureen Murphy, who was in the Worth Township Republican Party at that time.

This story is about Vina O'Malley where it all began. Vina did everything herself. She was at every Village Board Meeting, she was the photographer, publisher and editor and writer. She did not need sales to maintain the paper for only a year, after that is when I came along. I became her sales person in June of 1974 and worked with her only in sales on and off for 9 years, part time. After four years of college, and 14 credits toward a MA degree, I decided in 1983 to purchase the Village View Newspaper which was a monthly newspaper.

Again the wheel revolves! I, too did almost everything myself for one year, then developed it into a weekly newspaper and had many employees helping me to grow this paper. In 1993, the Village View went to every other week. Presently, Village View is semi-monthly and we now have four newspapers called, Suburban, 40 years old, South Suburban, 14 years old, Far South, 11 years old, and lastly BMAC which is our baby of 7 years.

This is the history of Village View Publications, Inc. We are not political, but we still enjoy informing our readers of good political news. We are making new ground by introducing our new mayors in our distribution area. We look forward to giving you more coverage by having a Website. At the present time you can read the paper on line for free. Hopefully, we can continue to receive the support we have had in the past.

With this support it will give you, the reader, a free newspaper at the various locations, you can see them on our website. Thank you for all of your support and your congratulatory uds. We will have one more issue for you to send us a congratulatory message. Thank you small business owners, without you I would not be able to create this newspaper for our interested readers. Thank you also to all who read this paper and make comments in writing when necessary. We love you remarks! Annette Dixon, President of vvnew.

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Out and About

with Kelly White

Correction from June 18th Issue: Saints Constantine and Helen Church, 11025 S. Roberts Road, will be hosting their annual Greek Festival on the weekend of August 17thand August 18th.

Alsip

Alsip Park District will be hosting their Farmers Market every Tuesday from now through October 8th from 3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at the Apollo Recreation Center Parking Lot, 12521 South Kostner Avenue, with live bands on August 6th and September 10th. Come out and enjoy the fresh produce, homemade items, local vendors, prepared foods, children's activities and more!

VFW Memorial Post 450, 11800 S. Cicero Ave., is asking for help to complete the Veterans Plaza and Path of Honor located at 11801 S. Pulaski Road. Veterans, relative and friends and business are encouraged to participate. Purchasing a memorial brick is a way to remember all veterans, past and present. Bricks can be purchased for $100 apiece. For more information, please call: 708-388-2387.

The Worth Township Seniors will hold a free Rules of the Road class from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. August 7th and October 2nd. Appointment must be made to attend. Call the Worth Township Senior Room at 708-371-2900, ext. 28. Worth Township Center is located at 11601 Pulaski Road in Alsip.

Blue Island

At the Blue Island Park District, 12804 S. Highland Ave., yoga is affordable. We dare you to find a more convenient, close to home, well priced, yoga class in the area. Pick from Intro to Yoga, Advanced Yoga, or Yoga for seniors, all which are taught by the area's best yoga instructors. Intro and Advanced Classes begin July 22nd through August 26th (6 weeks) $42/resident $54/Non-resident. Yoga for seniors begins July 31st through September 4th at a price of $42/resident, $62/Non-resident.

Crestwood

The Crestwood Public Library, 4955 135th Street, is hosting a Great Barrier Reef: Ocean Adventure for all ages on Tuesday, July 9th from 6:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. For more information, please call 708-371-4090. Tickets are required.

Midlothian

St. Christopher Fiesta will be taking place on Wednesday, July 17th through Sunday, July 21st at St. Christopher Parish, 4130 W. 143rd Street.

Oak Forest

The Oak Forest Community Center, 15501 S. Kilpatrick Avenue, is available for use by families and organizations during summer parties or activities. Requests to rent this facility are welcome and will be accommodated on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information or to rent the facility, please contact Jim Richmond at 708-687-4050, ext. 1005.

Tinley Park

Fairy Tale Theatre presents Story Stew: A Fairy Tale Revue on July 13th from 2:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. at the Tinley Park Public Library, 7851 Timber Drive. This Comedy by Stacey Lane answers the question, how did the old lady end up living in a shoe and why did the Big Bad Wolf try to eat Little Red Riding Hood? You'll find out the answer to these questions, and so much more, at Story Stew! This play is best suited for children ages 3-7 and their parents. Tickets are $3 each and will go on sale July 1st at the Circulation Desk.

Movie in the Park - Rise of the Guardians will be shown on Wednesday, July 17th at 8:30 p.m. at the Band Shell at Bettenhausen Recreation Center, 8125 W. 171st Street. Bring your blanket or lawn chair and join in for a movie under the stars. Movies are shown on a 20ft. blimp screen. Concessions will be available. Movie will be shown in the gym in case of bad weather.

Family Camp Out on July 19th from 5:30 p.m. until July 20th at 10:00 a.m. at the Community Park - West Parking Lot, 8125 W. 171st Street. Bring your tent and sleeping bags for a fun filled night under the stars. Planned activities include a late night movie on the giant blimp screen, campfire complete with s'mores, star gazing and more! White Water Canyon Park will be open until 8:30 p.m. for everyone camping out. All campers will enjoy a continental breakfast in the morning. Space is limited, register early.

Visit the Farmers Market from 7 a.m. to noon Saturdays from June through October for the best selection of fresh fruits, vegetables, flowers and much more. It is held in downtown Zabrocki Plaza, 17375 Oak Park Avenue.

Worth

The Terrace Center, 11500 Beliot Ave., has an indoor playground featuring slides, a climbing wall, tree house and more for children who can walk through 4 years old. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Fee is $1 for residents, $2 for non-residents. For more information call 708-448-7080.

The Village of Worth will be hosting its annual Worth Days this summer Thursday, August 22nd through Sunday, August 25th, with an entrance fee of $3 for Worth residents and $5 for non-residents. Children ages 16 and under and senior citizens ages 60 and older are free.

Burbank

Having a summer party? The Burbank Park District offers gazeho rentals available for your next big get together. With a two-hour minimum, they are located at: Stevenson Park, 85th and State Road, Harr Park, 83rd and Laramie, Nottingham Park, 7707 S. McVicker Avenue and Owens Park, 78th and LeClaire. You can reserve a date by going to www.burbankparkdistrict.org and logging in to the online registration form. You may also contact Julie Court at 708-599-2070 for more information.

Justice

The American Cancer Society is hosting a Relay for Life July 26th and 27th from 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. at the Bridgeview Park District, 8100 Beloit Ave. in Bridgeview. The event is a unique, challenging and fun way to raise money for cancer research and increase awareness of services available to cancer patients, their families, and our communities. Teams of approximately 10 –15 people (there is no minimum or maximum) from classrooms, local businesses, hospitals, civic groups and families take turn in the relay.

Evergreen Park

American Cancer Society Relay for Life Event will be taking place on July 13th at Brother Rice High School, 10001 S. Pulaski Road. For more information, please call 708-423-5258

Evergreen Park Recreation Department is sponsoring Square Dance plus lessons and workshops this summer. The classes are hosted by Swing'n Sugar Squares Square Dance Club and the workshop dances for experienced dancers will be held from 7:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. on Thursday evenings through August 22nd, except July 24th, at the Evergreen Park Community Center, 3450 W. 97th Street. There is a $5 fee per person.

Mark your calendars for the Evergreen Park Classic Car Show on Friday, October 4th.

Hickory Hills

Teens, ages 12-17, can escape the summer heat and come splash around with an event sponsored by the Hickory Hills Park District at the biggest waterpark in Illinois, Raging Waves Waterpark. This waterpark offers speed slides, raft rides, tube slides, lazy river, plunge slides, wave pool and much more. A $27 per teen includes: includes transportation, all day ticket, parking and chaperone. On Friday, July 19th teens will depart from Krueger Park Recreation Center, 9100 S. 88th Avenue, at 9:00 a.m. and return at 4:00 p.m.

The Hickory Hills Park District, is hosting a pizza bags tournament and social for adults ages 50 and older on Friday, August 2nd from 11:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. at the Krueger Park Gym, 9100 S. 88th Avenue. There is a $6 fee per resident and a $7 fee per non-resident. Fee includes coffee, soda, pizza and prizes. Lunch will be served at noon and a non-competitive tournament will begin after lunch.

Children can get The Museum Adventure Pass from the Green Hills Public Library, 8611 W. 103rd Street. This pass allows free entry into many museums in the area including: Brookfield Zoo, Chicago Botanic Garden, Oak Lawn Children's Museum and more! For more information visit the library.

Oak Lawn

The Oak Lawn Park District offers duplicate bridge every Monday at 11:30 a.m. at the Oak View Center, 4625 W. 110th Street. Cost is $7 per person and includes a light lunch. All ages are welcome. For more information call 708-857-2200.

99th Street Summer Theatre presents in its 35th Anniversary Season, Thoroughly Modern Millie, on Thursday, July 11th, Friday, July 12th and Saturday, July 13th at 8:00 p.m. Tickets are $20 per person or $16 for senior citizens.

The annual Fall on the Green Festival is held the weekend after Labor Day. This family friendly event has everything you look for in a festival - great food, wonderful entertainment, games, and vendors of all types. This event takes place on the Village Green located at 95th Street and Cook Avenue. There is no charge for admission, parking or rides.

Orland Park

The Orland Park Civic Center Farmers Market, 14750 Ravinia Ave., offers over 30 vendors offer a variety of fresh produce, flowers, plants, pasta, bakery items, gourmet spices, jewelry, home and garden items, purses, beauty products, and more. Barbecue lunches sponsored by local charities are available for purchase through August 9. For more information, please call 708-403-6145.

Chicago Ridge

The Our Lady of the Ridge Knights of Columbus chapter will present its summer flea market the second Sunday of every month from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the church, 108th Street and Ridgeland Ave. in Chicago Ridge. Markets will be held on July 13th, August 10th, September 14th and October 12th. The event will feature more than 35 vendors.

Mark your calendars for the 2013 Ridgefest, scheduled to take place Thursday, July 25th through Sunday, July 28th.

The American Legion-Glen Maker Post 1160, 106th and Ridgeland Avenue in Chicago Ridge will hold their 5th annual car show on Sunday, July 28th.

Palos Hills

Come out to stargaze at Moraine Valley Community Center as it hosts its series of telescope open viewing nights this summer. All open viewings are held at the telescope dome on the G. Jack Bradley Observation Deck, located on the west side of the college's Nature Study Area, off Kean Avenue near 107th Street. Observers can park in the lots east of Building P or in the west section of the Building D parking lot. Dates and times for this season's open viewings include the following Fridays: July 12th at 8:45 p.m., August 16th, at 8:15 p.m., September 13th at 7:15 p.m. and October 11th at 6:30 p.m.

Palos Hills residents 55 years and older meet from noon until 2 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at the Palos Hills Community Center, 8455 W. 103rd Street. Tickets for events must be purchased one week in advance. Entertainment includes musicians, singers, luncheons, movies and plays and bingo.

Palos Hills Friendship Fest will move this summer back to its original location on the Moraine Valley Triangle, on the 107th and 88th Avenue. The city's annual summer festival is scheduled to take place Thursday, July 11th through Sunday, July 14th.

Palos Park

The Autumn in the Park Festival is being expanded to include Friday night musical entertainment, food and spirits. Saturday features amateur rib competition and sanctioned chili competitions as well as numerous activities and music for the whole family. By popular demand the fest has brought back the band Libido Funk Circus to perform beginning at 7:00 p.m. Save the dates for Friday evening, September 20th and Saturday, September 21st for the 2013 Autumn In The Park Festival.

Palos Heights

Lake Katherine, 7402 Lake Katherine Drive, is offering Stargazing on Saturday, August 17th at 8:00 p.m. This is a free event and children are welcomed. No pre-registration required. Please meet near the telescope located in the Anniversary Garden.

Illinois Policy Institute

Matt Paprocki
Senior Director of Government Affairs

Lawmakers were in Springfield for a one-day special session on pension reform, which came in the wake of Illinois' 13th credit downgrade.

The state is now rated four notches above junk by Standard & Poor's, Moody's Investors Service and Fitch Ratings, and has the lowest credit rating of all 50 states.

This was the second special session called by Gov. Pat Quinn in less than a year, and took place more than 400 days after Quinn said he was "put on earth" to fix pensions.

Unfortunately, the session, which cost taxpayers $43,000, was doomed to fail.

Democratic leaders began making moves to create a conference committee aimed at breaking the stalemate between House Speaker Madigan and Senate President Cullerton.

And as expected, the General Assembly did not take formal votes on any pension legislation during special session.

Instead, the House and Senate each requested a conference committee. Cullerton and Madigan each appointed three members, and Senate Republican Leader Radogno and House Republican Leader Cross each appointed two members to the conference committee.

The Senate appointees include: Daniel Biss, Kwame Raoul, Linda Holmes, Matt Murphy and Bill Brady.

The House appointees include: Elaine Nekritz, Art Turner, Michael Zalewski Darlene Senger and Jil Tracy.

In the coming weeks, the committee will meet to resolve the differences between the various pension proposals on the table. If an agreement is reached, meaning six of the 10 members come to an agreement, a committee report will be filed.

The report must then be filed in both chambers and passed on a roll call vote by both the House and Senate.

If the committee cannot reach an agreement or the report does not pass both chambers, a second conference committee can be established. If the second committee fails, the bill will be declared dead.

Once the conference committee has finished its work, lawmakers are expected to return to Springfield to vote on their report. Quinn has set a July 9 deadline, so it is rumored that the second special session of the summer will be scheduled for July 8.

Illinois desperately needs pension reform. The state is expected to issue $1.3 billion of general obligation bonds, its biggest sale since May 2012. This bond issue costs taxpayers about $20 million in penalty costs when compared to AAA-rated states.

The rising cost of Illinois' pension crisis makes reform even more urgent, but the attitude of "passing anything" simply won't work.

Lawmakers should use the conference committee as an opportunity to reset the table and focus on ending the pension crisis by modernizing the state's retirement systems.

We held a press conference to promote a pension plan that is constitutional, would immediately cut Illinois' $100 billion unfunded pension liability by nearly half and would protect benefits already earned by retirees and current workers.

More importantly, the plan ends political control over workers' retirements by empowering employees to manage their own retirement savings going forward.

The stalemate between Illinois' top political players, the General Assembly's inability to enact pension reform and the decades of broken promises to workers and taxpayers confirm that it's time to get politicians out of the retirement business.

Tinley Park-Park Districts annual 4th of July celebration kicks off

Last year, nearly 20,000 patrons came through McCarthy Park (16801 S. 80th Avenue) for the annual 4th of July Celebration put on by the Tinley Park-Park District. This year looks to be no different, as many events and activities are scheduled all day Thursday, July 4.

Important reminder: All fireworks and sparklers are not allowed at the park at any time, and anyone found in violation of this rule may be subject to removal.

The day kicks off with the 23rd Annual Stars & Stripes 5K Run/Walk at 8 a.m. Registration for the race opens at 7 a.m. on race day and is $30 per participant.

Following the race, Tinley Junction Miniature Golf and Batting Cages will open at 10 a.m. and is located right on the grounds of McCarthy Park. Also, right down the street, White Water Canyon Water Park will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the fourth.

At 4 p.m., the opening ceremonies will prelude the start of activities at McCarthy Park, including: Tug-O-War, Sack Races, Water Balloon Toss, Wacky Relays, BINGO, Craft Table, Penny Carnival, Horseshoe Tournament, Face Painting, Glitter Tattoos, Sandy Candy, Food Tent, Beer Tent, Popcorn, Sno-Cones, and an Inflatable Climbing Wall, Bouncers, Toddler Town, Obstacle Course, Amazing Maze, and more!

Plenty of live music is planned for the evening, as the Danny Tanner Band will take the main stage at 4:15 p.m., followed by headliners - The Hat Guys - at 5:30 p.m. Bruce Korosa's Polka Band will also be performing, as well as Clowns Loopy and Cazoo with free helium balloons. David Fleming the Stilt Walker, and Dale the Magical Balloon-dude. Also, at 6:30 p.m., free watermelon will be served by park district staff.

All eyes will be turned east towards Centennial Lake around 9:15 p.m., as the Grand Finale Fireworks Extravaganza starts and patriotic music fills the air. This event is free to attend and is presented by the Tinley Park-Park District.

Medieval Times Dinner and Tournament

Special Park District Pricing!!

Salutations! Care to partake in a journey filled with swordplay, jousting, brave knights, and roasted chicken? Then reserve your spot in our upcoming Medieval Times Trip in Schaumburg, Il. Experience great excitement as valiant knights donning authentic armor clash for your entertainment pleasure. Included in your cost will be a 4-course meal, transportation to and from the castle, and entry to the show!

Limited spaces available. Participants 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Register Soon. Limited space available for this July 10th event.

Depart from park at 9:30am, show time is at 11am. Depart from Castle at 1pm and arrive back to park at 2pm.

Ages: All ages welcome.

The cost is $38 per passenger (includes transportation and entry to castle). Trip Registration number is 165005

Register online by visiting www.blueislandparks.org

Diabetes prevention for Seniors

On Tuesday, July 30 at 12:30, the Bremen Township Senior Center, 15350 S. Oak Park Ave., Oak Forest, will host a rep from Palos Community Hospital to discuss Diabetes Prevention. Starting at Noon, lunch will be available to seniors age 60+ for a $4 donation.

Call 708-687-8220 for info or to reserve your choice of Baked Pork Chop or Chicken Breast by noon, July 24th please.

Advertise your Summer Festival in the Village View.
Visit www.vvnew.com or call Linda at 708-425-1910 for more information.

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Michael B. Barrett, a prominent Attorney at Law for over 20 years, is the newly elected Illinois Referee in Chief and Illinois Supervisor of Officials for the Amateur Hockey Association of Illinois and USA Hockey. Barrett is the Past President of Southwest and South Suburban Bar Association.

Pictured left to right is Michael B. Barrett, Sr., Dennis Savard, Hall of Fame Hockey player and former coach for the Chicago Black Hawks and son Michael Barrett who is receiving a Hockey Scholarship to Holy Cross University. Young Michael is a graduate of Marist High School.

Village of Evergreen Park events

This week is Branch Pickup Week! Next Week is Recycling Pickup Week. . .

Download a full year's schedule online at www.evergreenpark-ill.com.

Sprinkling hours: 7am to 11am; 7pm to 11pm.

Check out the Evergreen Park Video Channel at www.evergreenpark-ill.com, as we have started broadcasting some interesting videos on Evergreen Park history!

Vehicle Sticker renewal applications will be sent out in August. The renewal deadline date has been changed to September 15 of each year.

West Nile Virus Precautions: The Sewer and Water Division of the Evergreen Park Department of Public Works will begin treating all open-covered storm basins throughout the Village with the Altosid briquettes in order to prevent and combat West Nile Virus. Treated open-covered storm basins will be marked with yellow paint. The South Cook County Mosquito Abatement District has been treating and evaluating all ponds, railroad ditches and both cemetaries. Anything that can hold water (small pools, cans, buckets, etc.) is where mosquitoes can breed. As of this date, there have been no positive tests reported in Cook County.

From The Office of Citizens Services One-day Trip to Quilt Gardens of Elkhart County Tuesday, July 30. Depart at 8am ($80).

AARP Driver Safety Program Thursday & Friday, August 1 & 2 ($12 members / $14 non-members).

Christmas at the Biltmore House & Dollywood 7-Day Trip: November 10 through 16, 2013 Includes transportation, hotel, many meals, admission to Dollywood and Biltmore Estate.

Mini-Bus and Meals on Wheels Services available through the Office of Citizen Services. For more information on any of the above events, call (708) 422-8776

Farmers Market open every Thursday at Yukich Field!

Summer Programs registration continues Monday through Friday, 9am to 5pm at the Community Center.

For your convenience, we are posting this Registration Form for ALL Programs: http://www.evergreenpark-ill.com/DocumentCenter/View/340

Youth Commission The Youth Center is open Tuesday to Friday, 1pm to 5pm. A variety of activities, games and social activities are available for youths from 5th grade through High School. Call the Evergreen Park Youth Commission for additional information and opportunities. This is a fun, safe place to be!

Upcoming summer trips include horseback riding, space golf, rock climbing and Comiskey Park tour.

For more information, call (708) 229-3377.

Evergreen Park Chamber of Commerce News

The 2013 Chamber Buyers Guides have been delivered in your mail. Additional copies available in the Village Hall. Contains complete information on the Chamber's "Top Secret Taste" Competition! Visit www.evergreenparkchamber.org for details.

Evergreen Park Chamber Annual Golf Outing, Friday, August 2. Check www.evergreenparkchamber.org for more info, or call (708) 424-7850.

Community Events

The Athletic Field at Evergreen Park Community High School is being renovated and improved; unfortunately, the running track will be closed for the summer. Please remember that the track at Yukich Field is always available to you.

Save the date! American Cancer Society Relay For Life Event, Evergreen Park Coming July 13 at Brother Rice High School

For more info, call (708) 423-5258 or visit www.relayforlife.org/evergreenparkil

Evergreen Park Classic Car Show coming on Friday, October 4!!!

Bridge Recovery Community meets every Wednesday at 7pm at Jacob's Well (supplemental recovery program for people struggling with addiction, co-dependence and past hurts. Call (708) 320-9802.

Orland Township to host Childrens Back-to-School Health Fair

The Orland Township Health Services department is hosting its annual back-to-school health fair. The free fair is scheduled for Saturday, July 13, 2013 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the grounds of the township, 14807 S. Ravinia Avenue. No appointment is necessary but participants must display proof of residency.

A variety of back-to-school services will be offered to residents on this day, including:

Dental Screenings will be offered by Silver Lakes Family Dental free of charge. This examination will fulfill the State of Illinois requirements for kindergarten, second and sixth grades. All Perfect Smiles will also be on hand with their mobile station for free dental cleanings.

School and Sports Physicals will be offered by Palos Medical Group for $20. School physicals are required for kindergarten, sixth and ninth grades.

Immunizations will be offered by the Orland Township Health Services department. All state-required vaccines are available. A shot record must be presented at the time of service. In order to receive an immunization, one must be an Orland Township resident, 18 years of age and younger and at least one of the following, uninsured, insured by Medicaid or All Kids (card must be presented at the time of immunization), or Native American (American Indian, Alaskan Native). Adult vaccines will also be available on this day for a discounted fee.

Vision Screenings will be offered by Dr. Ticho from The Eye Specialists Center free of charge. This screening does not fulfill the vision examination required by the State of Illinois for kindergarten; the examination needs to be performed in an office. Dr. Ticho will be offering the state-required examination at his office for $30.00, a $15.00 savings. Vouchers can be purchased and appointments can be made on-site.

Lead Testing will be offered by Doctors General Laboratory for $19.00. Under Illinois law, a parent or guardian of any child between the ages of 6 months through 6 years must have his or her child screened/assessed for lead poisoning before that child may be admitted to a daycare center, home daycare, preschool, nursery school, kindergarten or other licensed child care facility.

Additional attractions at the back-to-school health fair include: clowns, face painting, games, food and drink, including Oberweis ice cream, school-supply offers, children's yoga opportunities, financial advice, children's nutritional information and important safety tips from the Orland Park Police Department and the Orland Fire Protection District.

New attractions are still being added; for up-to-date information, please visit www.orlandtwp.org or call (708) 403-4222. Child-related organizations are also welcome to contact Health Services Coordinator Caitlin McElroy at caitlinm@orlandtwp.org if interested in providing a service at the fair.

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Celebrate Independence Day!
Buy 6 Hours for $150!*
Must Purchase Online by July 16, 2013
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Redeem by November 30, 2013 - FREE Quotes
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www.hayscleaning.com
www.facebook.com/hayscleaning
Locations more than 10 miles from office require min. hrs. purchase.
Expires July 16, 2013, Offer Code JL02

Smith Village to hold free support group

Tuesday, July 9, especially for caregivers and families of dementia sufferers.

Residents of the Beverly area in Chicago who have family members or friends living with cognitive loss are invited to join others who have the same concerns at a free 6:30 p.m. meeting Tuesday, July 9, at Smith Village, 2320 W. 113th Place.

Smith Village's memory support coordinator will focus on the importance of good communication skills with people who are cognitively impaired. "We will offer tips for when you are having trouble being understood or understanding," says Morgan.

She also will address how you are presenting yourself, trying a calm manner and things to think about when you speak.

Before ending, light refreshments will be served at the hour-long gathering at the continuing care retirement community (CCRC). To reserve a seat, please call 773-474-7300 or go to familyandfriends@smithvillage.org.

For more information about Smith Village, call 773-474-7300 or visit SmithVillage.org.

Tinley Park-Park District calendar of events

Thursday, July 4: Stars & Stripes 5K Run/Fun Walk

Awards will be given to makes and females for first, second and third place runners in all age categories based on chip timing. An award will also be given to the best overall resident and non-resident male and female runner. Shirts will be awarded to the first 550 registered participants. Pre-registration closes June 28 at 3:00 p.m. Registration and pre-registration pick up will open again at 7:00 a.m. on race day at McCarthy Park.

Thursday, July 4: Fourth of July Celebration at McCarthy Park

(16801 S 80th Ave. Tinley Park)

4:00-4:15 Opening Ceremonies

4:00-6:00 Bingo

4:00-6:30 Craft Table

4:00-7:00 Many events for kids

4:00-9:00 Food and Beer Tent. Popcorn, Sno-cones

4:15-9:15 Main Stage-The Hat Guys

4:30-6:30 Sandy Candy

5:00-6:00 Loopy and Cazoo the Clowns

5:00-7:00 David Fleming, Stilt Walker, and Dale The Magical Balloon Dude

9:00-9:15 Grand Finale Fireworks Extravaganza

Wednesday, July 10: Rise of The Guardians Movies in the Park

Going out to the big screen with the entire family can be pricey! Instead, bring your blanket, and be entertained under the stars at the outdoor band shell of the Bettenhausen Recreation Center! Concessions will be sold! In case of inclement weather, the movie will be shown in the Rec Center Gym. Movie starts at dusk.

Thursday, July 11: Disney Day at Tinley Junction

Wear your favorite Disney shirt to come play a round of golf and receive a special prize. For more information call the Tinley Junction at (708) 614-1854. Tinley Junction Mini Golf and Batting Cages is located at 16801 S. 80th Avenue in Tinley Park.

Friday, July 12: "Cool" Friday Nights At The VVAC-The Nuclear Quarktet

Are you looking for something unique and fun to do on Friday nights? Stop by the beautifully landscaped Vogt Visual Arts Center to hear live jazz. Be sure to stop inside to see our gallery filled with art by local artists. Stay "cool" this summer with the Tinley Park-Park District. These family events are FREE and fun for all! The Vogt Visual Arts Center is located at 17420 S. 67th Court in Tinley Park.

Friday, July 12: Raging Waves Water Park

Looking for the thrills and spills of Illinois's largest water park? Enjoy 8 slides, giant wave pool, swimming pools, lazy river, water coasters, funnels and more! Head for a day of fun before school begins, grab your friends and register today. This trip is for grades 6th-10th. The fee is $40 per person. Please register through the Tinley Park-Park District early to ensure space is available for your child.

Tuesday, July 16: Senior Luncheons

Join us at the Drop-In Center for one of our monthly luncheons! The Park District offers luncheons at the Drop-In Center on the third Tuesday of each month for adults age 60 and over. Lunch is served at 11:30 a.m. Registration deadline is one wekk before luncheon. The lunch menu will be available the first of every month and is subjeet to change. The fee is $3.50 for Drop-In Members and $4.50 for Non-Members.

Thursday, July 18: July Ice Cream Social

Join us for some sweet treats celebrating the 4th of July in the Senior Center. There will be ice cream flavors to choose from and toppings to help make your favorite dessert. This event is from 12:30-2 p.m. Games will be provided. The fee is $2 Resident and $3 Non-Resident. The Senior Drop-In Center is for adults age 55 and over.

Tinley Park-Park District is located at 8125 W. 171st Street, Tinley Park, IL. Call (708) 342-4200 or visit www.tinleyparkdistrict.org for more information.

Village of Oak Lawn annual Fourth of July Parade

The Village of Oak Lawn will hold their annual Fourth of July parade on Thursday, July 4, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. The parade will begin on the north side of 95th Street and 51st Avenue. The procession will head westbound on 95th Street to 55th Ct. 95th Street will be closed during this event. Spectators are encouraged to view the parade on both sides of 95th and should plan on arriving early for a good spot along the route.

Palos Heights Farmers Market has something for everyone!

The Palos Heights Farmers Market is open every Wednesday from 7 am to 1 pm. An ever expanding variety of fruits and vegetables are in the market every week. Strawberries, raspberries, and cherries, peas, lettuces, spinach, kales, onions, radishes, zucchini, potatoes, and tomatoes are available now. Other market offerings include honey and jams, hormone free, free-range eggs, butter and cheeses, bakery items and organic breads, hormone and antibiotic free, non-GMO corn fed beef and pork, olive oil and vinegars, coffee, tamales, perennial and annual plants and herbs, yard art, pizza products, pesto and salsas, Pampered Chef Products, Shaklee products and knife sharpening services round out the mix of weekly market offerings.

Make sure to stop by the City Tent for the weekly recipe from Dr. John Principe MD of WellbeingMD Center for Life. While at the City Tent, have your Frequent Shopper Card endorsed. Ten visits to the market and you will be entered into a year-end market raffle. In addition, make sure to sign up for the weekly market email update. Beautiful photo note cards featuring Palos Heights farmer's market and city scenes are available for purchase. Cards are $4 each, or 3/$10, with proceeds benefitting the market. Weather permitting; raffle tickets for the upcoming Classic Car Event on July 18th will be available for sales. Tickets sell for $20 each, or 6/$100.

The Community Tent offers local nonprofit organizations, community groups and businesses and artists the opportunity to reach out to the market patrons. Upcoming events include: The Palos Heights Fire Department (July 3rd), the Palos Heights Women's Club, the Palos Heights Library (children's story hour at 10 AM), and State Senator Bill Cunningham and State Representative Fran Hurley (July 10th). The Palos Heights Recreation Department and Music Director, with a Pool Pass Raffle and children's music (July 17th), The Palos Heights Library Children's story hour (10 AM) and local artist Bonnie Duewerth (July 24th). And Friends of the Palos Heights Library Book Sale on July 31st.

The Palos Heights Farmers Market is held at 12217 S Harlem Ave. It is open on Wednesdays until October 9th, from 7 am to 1 pm, rain or shine (will close for lightning). More information about the Palos Heights Farmers market can be found at www.palosheights.org join us on Facebook, or call 708-361-1800.

Moraine Valley adds session of Minecraft Makerbot

Due to overwhelming demand, Moraine Valley Community College has added another section of its eFun Academy's Minecraft Makerbot class in July. The eFun Academy is part of the college's summer Valley Learning Center for kids.

Kids ages 8 to 13 will work with a partner to build and program a LEGO robot to solve Minecraft-inspired challenges. They will destroy, create, mine for gold, and gaze at the fantastic structures others have built as well as take shelter before night time when zombies, skeletons and the dreaded Creeper come out to play.

The added class will be July 22-25, from 9:30 a.m. to noon. The fee is $129. Use course code PY4-647-002 when registering.

Register today in person at the Registration Office, located in S125 on campus, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills, or by calling (708) 974-2110 (TTY for the hearing impaired 708-974-9556). Participants also can register online at morainevalley.edu by selecting "Register for Noncredit Classes" under Academic Focus then "Search, register and pay for noncredit classes."

For more information regarding the Minecraft Makerbot course and the eFun Academy at Moraine Valley, contact Corporate, Community and Continuing Education at (708) 974-5735 or visit morainevalley.edu/vlc.

Happy 4th of July

As we remember those who are serving our Country.
From the Village of Evergreen Park

Mayor: James J. Sexton
Clerk: Catherine Aparo
Trustees: Mary Keane, Carol Kyle, Mark Marzullo, Jim McQuillan, Mark Phelan & Dan McKeown

Medieval Times Field Trip

Wednesday, July 10, 2013
9:00 am to 2:00 pm

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS MONUMENTAL DISCOUNT!!
$38 all ages, no minimum
Includes transportation and entry to castle
Non-residents pay no extra fees

BLUE ISLAND PARK DISTRICT

12804 S. Highland Ave, Blue Island
708-385-3304 or www.blueislandparks.org

2013 Worth Ridge Panther Football & Cheerleading
Ages 6 - 14 years old

2012 Season
Pee Wee - 2nd Place
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Now is the time for your boys to play championship football for the best team around.
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We take pride at what we do at Panther football.
COME SEE WHAT WE ARE ABOUT!!
$150 Registration Fee $100 Equipment Deposit $100 Fundraiser
Cheapest prices around guaranteed
Call **708-952-1103**

Things to do

Dog Days Sidewalk Sale & Pet Parade

There will be bargains galore at stores up and down Western Avenue. Pet owners gather Saturday at 10:00 a.m. Lost Treasures to parade down Western, then festivities in MetroSouth Park on Fri & Sat, August 2 & 3, 2013 on Western Ave.

11th Annual Beverly Hills Cycling Classic

A race in the new Prairie States Cycling Series, and one of the races on the USA Cycling National Criterium Calendar, women's and men's pro races, plus a festival with music, food, and beverages.

Thursday, July 18, (women at 4:30, men at 6:30 p.m.) on 107th & Longwood Drive, Beverly, Illinois.

Rotary night at Thunderbolts stadium

Watch our own Thunderbolts take on the Frontier Grays and support the Blue Island/Crestwood Rotary. Call Lynn at 708.239.1323 ext. 21. August 8, 7:05 p.m., $10 at ThunderBolts Stadium, 14011 S. Kenton Ave., Crestwood

Cruise Night

Pack up the car and head to Blue Island.

Tonight is the fourth in a series that runs all summer - every Monday evening through Sept. 9., 2013, at 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at York & Western (13000 south), Blue Island.

Open House and Book Recycling

Come learn more about admissions, financial aid, and job search tips. Bring in your old books to be donated to the Blue Island Public Library.

Saturday, July 13, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Moraine Valley Education Center, 12940 S. Western Avenue, 708-974-5300.

Chicago Botanical Garden Trip

Take a load off and experience the beauty that is nature. The Chicago Botanic Garden is one of the country's most visited botanic garden and one visit will show you why.

Thursday, July 18, $20 at Blue Island Park District, Memorial Park Fieldhouse, 12804 S. Highland Ave., 708-385-3304.

District 130 to host annual Farmers Market in Blue Island

Cook County School District 130 will be hosting their annual Farmers Market on Mondays from July 8 to October 7 in the parking lot of Beggars Pizza, located at 12660 Western Avenue in Blue Island, from 3 pm to 7 pm. Vendors will be on hand to sell goodies including homemade tamales, hand-picked fruits and vegetables and much more. Come out and enjoy the tastes of summer with School District 130!

If interested in being a vendor, please call Raeann Zylman at 708-932-3868 or email rzylman@district130.org or contact Valerie Marrin at vmarrin@district130.org.

Louis Wilk explores www.evergreenpark-ill.com, viewing a historical video.

Village launches Evergreen Park Video Channel

There's a new video channel in town! And it can be found at www.evergreenpark-ill.com.

The Village of Evergreen Park recognizes that cyberworld is the fastest communications vehicle in the world.

Last year, Mayor James Sexton commissioned the new website in order to provide a fully-interactive web presence for the Village, which went "live" last fall.

Now, all the latest village news is available with the click of a button. On the website, you can find digital copies of our quarterly (mailed) newsletters, plus the weekly e-newsletter updates, The News Flash, on the front page, ensures that the most pertinent up-to-date news is the first thing you see.

You can also download any forms you need; birth certificate requests, block party instructions, building department permit applications, etc.

Now that faster internet speeds are available throughout the area, the Village has taken advantage of the progressing technology by creating the Evergreen Park Video Channel, which is now being populated with items to educate and entertain anyone who visits the website.

The idea of using the video channel as an information and entertainment source comes from Village Clerk Cathy Aparo, who stated "a picture is worth a thousand words". The intent of the video channel is to provide historical information, as well as current videos dealing with Evergreen Park life today.

There are several videos currently uploaded to the website:

A short film of highlights from the 2012 Village of Evergreen Park Independence Day Parade

A montage of photos taken from the October, 2012 Classic Car Show

A 45-minute long video (in three installments) of 16mm color film footage of the 4th of July festivities in Evergreen Park from 1968.

A 40-minute interview with long-time Evergreen Park community and business leader Martin Ozinga, Jr. videotaped in 1999.

The Evergreen Park Police Department used the video channel last month to broadcast a message from Police Chief Michael Saunders about a then-current event.

Working in tandem with the Evergreen Park Historical Commission, future videos to be uploaded include histories of the Library, the High School, and the Village itself.

Currently in production is "Evergreen Park – A Place To Call Home", a video travelogue of the sights and life of the village, expected to be complete in July.

Other "surprises" are planned as well.

The Video Channel is also open to submissions by the residents, who are invited to provide videos (home movies) or photos (current or historical). Information on this submission process, can be directed to epinfo@hotmail.com or to (708) 229-8219.

Celebrate in 2013 with Italian Culture

Riccardo Muti. Music Director for Chicago Symphony Orchestra mentions the year of Italian Culture by celebrating Verdi's Requiem October 10th . Verdi's 200th birthday will he streamed live around the world on cso.org and on demand.

by Annette Dixon

Silvio Marchetti. Director nf the Italian Cultural Institute of Chicago mentioned that 2013 is the year of Italian Culture in the United States. Some exciting upcoming events are happening at a variety of cultural institutions throughout the city. For example, Music Director Riccardo Muti. and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra celebrate Verdi's Bicentennial as part of the Year of Italian Cultural with concerts in Sept. and Oct., 2013.

Two days only, July 9 and 10th. Barrique: A Third Life for Wood. This celebration takes place because of the exquisite craftsmanship that has long heen a hallmark of Italian culture and appears at The Field Museum. For more information visit, fieldmuseum.org

Beginning October 17, Uffizi Gallery in Florence,

Artemisia Gentileschi's sensational "Judith Slaying Holofernes (c. 1620) comes to Chicago as the centerpiece of Violence and Virtue. The painting will he on display in Galleries 202 and 202A at the Art Institute of Chicago from Octoher 17, 2013 through January 9, 2014.

Enjoy the elaborate time travel comedy The Half Brothers Mendelssohn

by Annette Dixon

The Strange Tree Group is pretty strange to come up with a comedy so perverse that you can't define what is fact or fiction. It takes courage and money to invest in a world premiere play especially when writing about death. someone's past life and try to insert music and comedy. Well they did it! I would say that experiencing this play was better than seeing a movie about time travel.

Walking into a theater and viewing a body in a casket is strange. Yes, the opening was a funeral service with the father. Joseph Nathaniel Mendelssohn 1875-1929, Felix Mendelssohn's music of 6 Romances sans paroles: Consolation (Op. 30 No. 5), a Eulogy. Words from family member and the Recessional.

Theo Mendelssohn, a son of Joseph, believes he can change the past, alter the future, find true love, and bring back the dead with his creative invention of a time machine. Against his half brother. Nathaniel's, wishes, these two men go through many tumbles, which make up the body of this play. Stuart Ritter, as Theo, stands out because he has more lines to remember than other actors. You have to admire his ability to remember all these lines. Playwright, Elizabeth Baghy, accomplished her goal of introducing death and bringing to life, a new story by inventing a time machine and giving us the comedic approach through the Half Brother Mendelssohn.

The location is Signal Ensemble Theatre at 1800 W. Berenice (between Addison and Irving Park) Chicago, IL and tickets can be purchased on line at www.strangetree.org.

Tickets are available for $15 nightly for students and industry tickets (subject to availability. Curtain time is Thursday. Friday, Saturday. 8:00 pm and Sundays 7:00 pm. No performances on July 4 or 5. Regular ticket prices are $25 and this play will continue until July 20th.

The Incredible World Premiere Mahal

by Annette Dixon

Bailiwick Chicago Theater concludes their season with an astonishing production of a World Premiere of the family drama. Mahal. Resident Playwright is Danny Bernardo, and directed by the famous Chicago free-lance director, Erica Weiss, who assisted Barbara Gaines on Timon of Athens and Chicago Premiere of Elizaheth Rex at Chicago Shakespeare Theater. Erica, also, was nominated by the Joseph Jefferson Award for "Best New Work" for A Twist of Water.

Mahal is a new play ahout how one wealthy Filipino American Family finds the love of family they all were looking for within their own family. This is the first new work portraying the Filipino Americans with Filipino Actors who gave their awe to their performance.

A few of my favorite Filipino actors in Mahal are Joseph Anthony Foronda as Roherto Reyes; Jillian Jocson, Kim: Kate Garassino, Mari Reyes: Blair Rohertson, Kendall. My only regret is that there weren't any cheat sheets in the playhill to help with the Filipino language. To many phrases were lost in the delivery, because of not understanding the language. If you are Filipino this play is a must see! If you are not Filipino, you will enjoy many comedic lines and understand the gist of the subject matter, while the Filipino language is being spoken.

Excuse me, I was in the Philippines and didn't feel the language barrier as I did watching this play.

Mahal is at Stage 773, located at 1225 West Belmont Ave., Chicago. Tickets can be purchased at www.stage773.com or call the hox office at 773-327-5252.

Goodman presents Jungle Book

Jungle Book the Musical now runs through August 11.

Tony Award winner Mary Zimmerman reimagines Walt Disney's 1967 animated hit into a wholly original new work for the stage. drawing from both the film as well as Rudyard Kipling's 1894 collection of stories set in the Indian jungle and featuring original Indian inspired music and dance.

Academy and Grammy Award winners Richard M. and Rohert B. Sherman. Richard Sherman collaborates with Music Director Doug Peck who arranges and orchestrates the music, adding under scoring hased both on themes from the film and Indian ragas and dance music.

Peck's instrumentation includes piano/harmonium, hass. drum set, clarinet, saxophones, flute. trumpet, trombone. tuba, Indian snake trumpets, Carnatic (South Indian) violin, sitar, veena. tablas, ghattam. dholak.

Tony Award winning chorcographer Christopher Gattelli collaborates with Chicago hased. Hema Rajagopalan founder and artistic director of Chicago's Natya Dance Theatre to combine elements of classical Indian dance forms with jazz. tap and other types of movement to enhance the storytelling.

Rajagopalan's company performs Bharata Natyam, a major classical Indian dance form that relies heavily on expressive, specific hand gestures.

"I am extremely proud to bring The Jungle Book to Goodman audiences," said Artistic Director Robert Falls. "Imaginative enough for family audiences yet told with the wit and sophistication that has become a hallmark of Mary's work, it's a beautiful new interpretation that captures the power, wonder and humor that have made these stories immortal."

Tickets to The Jungle Book $30-$125. discounts available for subscribers, students and military. prices are now on sale: visit GoodmanTheatre.org, call 312.443.3800 or in person at the Goodman box office (170 N. Dearbom).

Philip R Smith as Det. Bass, Beth Lacke as Susan Howren, MD, and Eddie Martinez as Stewart Perez

Lookingglass Theatre Company presents The World Premiere of Big Lake Big City

by Annette Dixon

Big Lake Big City written by Keith Huff is probably one of the few murder mysteries I have seen in many years. It is a spoof, but shows alot of drama and comedy with a cast of ten, who have done a magnificent job.

Detective Bass doesn't quite carry his role throughout the play. In the first act he rattle off his lines as though he says them by rote. I have see Philip R. Smith/Det. Bass in many other Chicago performances and considered him a magnificent actor. Could it he he was having a had opening night, or was he too over worked as Producing Artistic Director and actor in this play.

Keith Huff, playwright, wrote a good play but it left me confused as to the time frame of the play; was it from the 60's era or a 2011 era, confusing.

Beth Lacke. who played Susan, was a favorite of the audience, she appeared to keep this play on solid ground. This was her first time with Lookingglass and with the approval of the audience, I am sure it won't be her last.

I enjoyed the little quips thrown into the play for pure comedic affect, I loved it. This play is worth seeing and only $36 for the price of the ticket. Lookingglass has Target Saturday Matinees, there are a limit on tickets available for this offer. What it is, you huy one and get one free. The performance starts at 3:00 pm and that is a good deal.

It's a good way to spend the afternoon downtown Chicago at the Water Tower Water Works, 821 North Michigan Ave. at Pearson St. Chicago. Buy online at www.lookingglasstheatre.org or by phone at 312-337-0665.

Ten year old Akash Chopra makes his Chicago dehut as young "man eub" Mowgli, who come of age with the help of the anthropomorphic singing and dancing jungle animals; joining him in the role at select performances is Roni Akurati. who most recently appeared at the Goodman as Tiny Tim in the 2011 production of A Christmas Carol.

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Healthy flax facts

(NAPSA)-Adding a small seed to your diet may offer big benefits. That's the word from experts who say that flaxseeds are an excellent way to improve your health.

For starters, flax is an excellent source of fiber and antioxidant vitamin E. It's rich in monounsaturated fatty acids and is an excellent source of omega-3 essential fatty acids.

Flax has been found to help lower total and LDL cholesterol as well as increase HDL cholesterol levels in the blood.

It's also a good source of many B-complex vitamins as well as minerals such as potassium, iron, magnesium and zinc.

To get the full nutritional value, flaxseed must be ground. Grind the seeds in a coffee or spice grinder right before using it and freeze the whole seed for up to six months for maximum freshness. Adding 1 1/2 tablespoons of ground flax every day is easy-just use your creativity. Stir it into your morning juice or water and sprinkle it on everything from oatmeal to scrambled eggs, soups and salads as well as main meals and side dishes. Or try it in this fabulous smoothie:

Fabulous Flax Smoothie

Fabulous Flax Smoothie

1 cup ice cubes

1 frozen banana

2 cups frozen fruit (raspberries, strawberries, blackberries, peaches)

4 kale leaves, center ribs removed, optional

1 Tbsp. ground flax

1 cup almond milk or orange juice

Fill blender container with ingredients, beginning with ice cubes and pouring almond milk or orange juice in last. Blend until smooth and creamy. Makes 2 large servings.

Visit www.ameriflax.com for information and recipes.

Bremen and Orland Families for Life invites you to Pray for our Nation

Pray with us for 15 minutes, one hour or the whole time on Friday, July 26, 2013.

Latest developments on Pro-Life issues will be heard from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. The Rosary will be said from 6:00 to 7:00 pm.

Bring your lawn chair to the outside grotto of Our Lady of Sorrows, 5900 West 147th Street in Oak Forest.

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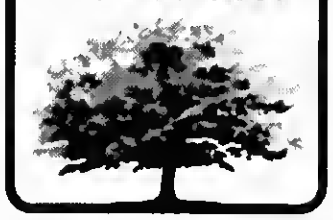

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Make healthy eating a family tradition

by Chef Nikki Shaw

(NAPSA)-A legacy of healthy eating can be one of the best gifts you give your family. Like traditions, healthy recipes can be passed down from generation to generation. Choose the right ones and you'll provide great opportunities for your family to live longer, healthier lives.

The Network for a Healthy California (Network) offers a number of tips and resources to help take charge of your family's health. By providing families with healthy recipes, the Network empowers everyone to pass down traditions of health.

Eat healthier with this tasty twist on a traditional dish.

Try adding a few healthy and tasty recipes to your family's legacy, starting with the delicious Oven Fried Chicken with Summer Squash from the Network's Soulful Recipes-Building Healthy Traditions cookbook:

Oven Fried Chicken with Summer Squash

This recipe adds a healthy twist to a traditional meal by baking instead of frying chicken.

1 cup finely crushed cornflakes
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
1 teaspoon onion powder
1 teaspoon garlic powder
1/2 cup evaporated skim milk
1 pound chicken breasts, skin removed, cut into 6 pieces
Non-stick cooking spray
1/2 tablespoon vegetable oil
1 clove garlic, finely chopped
2 medium zucchinis, cut into short strips
3 medium yellow squash, cut into short strips
1 teaspoon dried oregano

Place an oven rack in the middle of the oven. Preheat oven to 350°F. In a small bowl, combine cornflakes, salt, ground black pepper, onion powder and garlic powder. Place evaporated milk in a separate bowl. Dip chicken pieces in milk and roll in crushed cornflake mixture, lightly coating both sides.

Spray a roasting pan with non-stick cooking spray and arrange chicken pieces on the pan in a single layer. Bake for 30 minutes. While the chicken is baking, heat oil in a medium skillet over medium-high heat. Sauté garlic in oil for about 3 minutes. Add zucchini, yellow squash and oregano; continue to cook until tender, about 5 to 7 minutes. Serve each piece of chicken with 1 cup of zucchini and yellow squash mixture. Makes 6 servings.

This recipe is lower in fat because the chicken is baked, not fried. It's also lower in both fat and cholesterol because it uses chicken breasts instead of thighs. Remove the skin before coating the chicken to reduce fat even more. Serve it with a side dish of sautéed squash and zucchini to ensure your family gets closer to the recommended goal of making half their plate fruits and vegetables!

Celebrity Chef Nikki Shaw hosts "Today's Flavor" on Sirius XM and was a contestant on the Food Network's search for "The Next Food Network Star." For more information on the Network for a Healthy California, visit www.CaChampionsForChange.net.

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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 40 | Number 2 | July 16, 2013

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

Paving contractor to make good on last years Evergreen Park street project

by Matt Mayer

Mayor James Sexton said at the July 1 Evergreen Park Board of Trustees meeting that the principle of Hillside-based road builder and supplier, Orange Crush, called him and was concerned about cracking in the streets from last years the $2.7 million paving project. He promised to repair or resurface the streets at no cost. "He made a point to reach out, and I believe he is a man of his word," said Sexton. Village engineer Tim Klass said Orange Crush did everything they were supposed to. They followed IDOT's requirements but it didn't turn out. There has been a little too much cracking in some areas", said Klass.

While both independent engineers and paving professionals are unsure what caused the cracking - the problem might be attributed to a change in the asphalt mixture IDOT requires from asphalt contractors', said Klass. "Whatever the cause, more moisture penetrated the asphalt, causing cracks to form as it froze during the winter. I give the guy credit, with the labor and materials, this is going to cost him money", said Klass.

Other highlights: An ordinance No. 15-2013, amending a Section 3-58, regarding fees and limitations of Chapter 3 pertaining to alcoholic liquor, of the Evergreen Park municipal code by establishing the number of liquor licenses in each class. All licensees will be issued on a calendar year basis. The fee for the various classes of license and the maximum amount issued is as follows: (A) Consumption on premises and packaged sales $2,000.00 - 2 issued; AA) Consumption on premises and package sales of beer and wine only, $2,000.00 - 2 issued; B) Consumption on premises $1,600.00 - 6 issued; C) Package sales $1,400.00- 3 issued; CC) Package sales of beer and wine $1,400.00 - 1 issued; D) Veterans consumption on premises $200.00 - 1 issued; E) Restaurant consumption on premises of beer and wine only $1,400.00 - 2 issued; ENT) Entertainment $300.00 - 0 issued; ENTL Entertainment permitted per day $ 10:00 - 0 issued; F) Restaurant consumption on premises $1,400.00 - 0 issued; G) Recreational Club on premises $1,400.00 - 1 issued; H) Restaurant consumption of premises for specified alcohol $1,600.00 - 0 issued.

A Southwest Conference of Mayors dues request of $5,000 for fiscal year 2013-2014 was approved as well as a request from St. Xavier to hold their 13th Annual Cougar 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, Oct. 5. A request to proclaim July 13 and 14 "Relay for Life" of Evergreen Park, Mount Greenwood, and Beverly Days was also approved.

Problem bank merger is not a problem in Hickory Hills

by Jan Glaz

On July 11th at the City of Hickory Hills City Council Meeting City Treasurer Dan Schramm reported that Hickory Hills received a letter from Archer Bank regarding the merger of Archer Bank with a sister bank group. Since Archer Bank is owned by the Metropolitan Bank Group, Inc. it will be merged into the largest group North Community Bank. In reference to the merger the letter claimed: "more branches, better efficiency, better service and better investment capital to provide a financially stronger bank." said Schramm. The treasurer related that the city's, over one million dollar money market investment is fully secure within the merger.

Details concerning problem bank mergers include: The FDIC and the State Banking Department allowed the Metropolitan Bank Group, Inc., Chicago IL to merge its problem banks into its lead bank, North Community Bank, Chicago, IL ($789 million), which has been operating under an enforcement action since 2011 that was recently modified in May 2013. The subsidiaries merged were Metrobank, Berwyn, IL ($622 million); Archer Bank, Chicago, IL ($469 million); Plaza Bank, Norridge, IL ($327 million); and Oswego Community Bank, Oswego, IL ($194 million). Other banks finding merger partners were The Bank of Southern Connecticut, New Haven, CT ($121 million) and Nevada National Bank, Las Vegas, NV ($52 million).

Public Works Director Larry Boettcher brought to the attention of the council a suggestion to amend the city's 1998 service agreement between the city of Hickory Hills and the Hickory Hills Park District, an agreement by which they can exchange and/or service equipment. Boettcher said the issue arose when Public Works required maintenance on mowers at a time when their current mechanic was absent due to illness.

On the business front: before the meeting adjourned, Mayor Howley announced that O'Reilly Auto Parts will be breaking ground sometime in August and everything is on track to open sometime next year; at the June 27th City Council Meeting the Highlander Grill had requested a liquor license and the council withheld approval to further review their application. The item once again came up for motion and the council approved a Class C liquor license for in store consumption of wine and beer.

Justice audit reveals financial surplus

by Jan Glaz

Calene Zabinski, Municipal Accountant, ZCS, Inc. stepped up to the podium at the July 8th Village of Justice President and Board of Trustees Meeting and reported that in regards to the annual audit and in particular to the General Fund, Justice had a phenomenal year. Calene further stated that although the General Fund showed a surplus of over $400,000, the Village is still behind, but moving in the right direction and credited the financial success to the decisions made by the President and Board of Trustees. Calculating that the Village is only about one year away from catching up Zabinski added, "We're working on the June financials and hopefully at the next meeting we will have a six month financial plan." When the Village is in the negative it is more difficult to create surplus in the financial statement stated Calene but in the last two years the Village has done a great job. The year showed $278,000 in surplus and every month the Village continues to add to it. The Water and Sewer Fund, said Calene, is also doing an exceptional job creating surplus and as it stands now the Pension Fund is good and the Village is not taking any money out. The State of Illinois is four years behind in paying the Village income tax money. Currently they owe three months, an average of $200 to $250,000.00. President Kris Wasowicz urged residents to take action and to call or email the state.

Before the meeting adjourned, Village Clerk Kathy Svoboda reported that the regular Committee Meetings of the Justice Village Board customarily held on the Wednesday prior to Monday's Board Meetings will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Monday August 26th, just prior to the board meetings, due to scheduling conflicts. Trustee Melanie Kuban brought forth a motion that carried authorizing and establishing the rate of pay for part-time police officers at $20.00 per hour and Trustee Rich Sparr announced the Annual Justice Auto Show will be held on Saturday, August 24th with a rain date of Sunday, August 25th, 2013.

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 14 | July 16, 2013

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Photos by Wehmeier Portraits

Anytime Fitness recently opened its doors for business and was welcomed to the Orland Park community by Orland Park Area Chamber members. Anytime Fitness offers its members 24-hour aeeess to its state-of-the-art fitness facility and equipment 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

The Orland Park fitness faeility is located at 11033 W. 179th Street. Pictured are (left to right): Karen Nemeth. BMO Harris Bank N.A.: Rob Wehmeier, Wehmeier Portraits: Kenneth Howard. Anytime Fitness and Ed Schussler, Village of Orland Park Trustee.

Oak Forest accepts Energy-Me as low bid supplier

by Jan Glaz

The lowest bid eame in on the day of the regularly scheduled Oak Forest City Council Meeting held on July 9th for an eleetrical supplier for multiple Public Works sites. Eleetrieity market costs have been trending upwards since mid-2012 and it is an ideal time for the city to loek into prieing for the next two years. Public Works Director. Rich Rinehich, explained that energy prices are quoted daily; to take advantage of the lowest bid from a supplier the bid must be available on the day of the eouneil meeting. An executable agreement will be provided on that day for eouncil approval. Energy-Me's two year rate of 3.793 cents per kilowatt hour is projeeted to save the City approximately $4.802 in eleetricity costs over the two year contract. The eity eouneil also agreed to utilize the purehase of green renewable energy eredits. Doing so will cost .001 per kilowatt hour. Going green will support the City's aetivities in the Clean Air Counts Campaign and save $3,741.00 in electrical supply costs over the two year eontraet.

The City Counеil opened the door to amending an Oak Forest Municipal Code pertaining to the position of Deputy Chief of Police. Over the last five years there has been a signifieant reduetion in management. Police Chief Anderson stated that many administrative duties have been assigned to patrol supervisors and the added task has made them less responsive in their patrol duties. An additional position of Deputy Chief of Police will allow the department to relieve patrol supervisors of many administrative tasks and move forward with planning and new projeets. Police Chief Gregg Anderson supplied an organizational ehart and detailed position analysis deseriptions for a Deputy Chief over Patrol and another Deputy Chief over Support Services as a possible next step after the amendment approval.

Before the meeting adjourned retired police offieer Glenn Runge aeeepted aeeolades, a eommemorative plaque, and a retirement badge. Police Chief Gregg Anderson commented, "This is a proud moment for Glenn Runge and for the Oak Forest Police Department. The two most important dates in a law enforeement offieers eareer is the day he starts his eareer providing public service and the second most proud day is when he can walk out the door unhurt and enjoy his retirement and his family."

Tinley Park agreement fosters 10 million in taxable sales revenue

by Jan Glaz

A measure adopted by the Tinley Park Board of Trustees on July 2nd authorizing the execution of an indueement agreement for Rizza Buick GMC Cadillac, Inc. is expected to bring in an estimated 10 million in new annual taxable sales and ereate 10 new jobs. The indueement agreement is associated with the eorporate mandated remodeling/expansion project at the Buick GMC Cadillae auto dealership located at 8415 West 159th Street. If not for the ineentive the projeet, estimated at $2.5 million, would not be eompleted and the franchise agreement would be impaeted. The ineentive is based on new sales related to the Buick GMC Cadillae dealership, whereby the Village would receive 100% of the first $251,000 in Village sales tax revenue per year, and Rizza Buick GMC Cadillac, Inc. would reeeive 33% of the Village sales tax revenue in excess of $251,000 each year for up to 10 years, with a not guaranteed maximum incentive amount of $825,000.

Village Clerk Patrick Rea announeed faets pertaining to vehicle stickers. An estimated 32,500 stickers were sold, which represents about 70% of the total number of vehieles estimated to be located in Tinley Park. Rea stressed that revenues from vehiele sticker sales go toward road maintenanee and everyone should pay their share. "In eoordination with the Police Chief, the Manager, the Chairman of the committee board on Public Safety we are instituting a moratorium on tickets for the next month and beginning August 1st we will be doing aggressive ticketing." said Clerk Rea. Tinley Park residents who failed to purchase their vehicle stickers by the June 30th deadline will have until July 31st to do so, they must pay the late fees, but tickets will not be issued. Stickers are sold at the Village Hall 16250 S. Oak Park Avenue during business hours and 24 hours a day at the Tinley Park Police Department, 7850 W. 183rd Street.

With the recommendation of President Zabrocki and Trustee J.J. Grady the Village appointed Kenneth Karezewski to the position of Code Compliance Officer. Ken Karezewski possessed the necessary qualifications and he was chosen from 56 applicants; eleven were interviewed. Ken's experience ineludes serving the community as a Patrol Offieer for 26 years and reeently as the Village's Crime Free Housing Offieer. Besides computer and communication skills Ken has a passion for serving is community.

Advertise is our Back to School issue. Call 708-425-1910.

Taste of Orland Park Village

The Village's annual Taste of Orland Park will take place on August 2nd, 3rd and 4th featuring Orland Park 's favorite eateries.

The 2012 Taste of Orland Park drew in excess of 40,000 patrons.

Interested restaurants located within Orland Park should contaet Ray Piattoni at 708-403-6283 for additional information.

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SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 14 | Number 14 | July 16, 2013

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Waters Edge Golf Course meets revenue goal

by Matt Mayer

At the July 2 Worth Board of Trustees meeting, Trustee Mary Rhein said, "Waters Edge Golf Course hosted 5,890 rounds of golf in June, down a couple of hundred rounds from the budgeted 6,015, which is not bad considering the wet conditions in June. The Edge Bar and Grill met it's goal of $96,000 for June".

Illinois Secretary of State's Office Program Director, Mary Riseling, spoke at the previous board meeting regarding new state regulations for vehicles parked with handicap placards. The new regulations will define which drivers are exempt from paying parking meter fees. "Currently anyone with a disabled placard is exempt from paying meter fees. However beginning Jan. 1, 2014, only drivers with a gray and yellow striped placard will be exempt", said Risling.

The following restrictions for exemption are as follows: A person must have a valid Illinois drivers license, be immobilized without the use of an assisted device or a wheelchair; not have the use of both arms to put a coin in the meter; unable to reach higher than 42 inches; unable to walk 20 feet unassisted. The state requirement for the issuance of handicapped placards to persons with a permanent disability is that they are able to walk a maximum of 200 feet unassisted.

The Illinois General Assembly has also increased the fine for parking in a handicapped space without a placard from $250 to $600 or more, also effective Jan 1, 2014. Currently there are 670,000 placards issued in the state. However only 30-35 percent of those people will qualify for the new fee exempt card, said Riseling.

Palos Park approves local street repair project

by Matt Mayer

Public Works and Streets Commissioner Nicole Milovich-Walters said at the July 8 Village Council meeting that the village has budgeted $245,000 for the 2013 local street repair project. The six blocks of roadway slated to be repaired are 121st Street, from 88th Avenue to Kaptur Crossing and Forest Glen Boulevard, from 91st Street to the library.

Public Works Director Mike Sihrava said the project would include both resurfacing and reconstruction. We plan on advertising for bids late summer and the project should take one to two weeks to complete, said Sibrava. The project will be paid for from the motor fuel tax and the half percent municipal sales tax, he added.

Other highlights: An ordinance restricting parking along Rt. 45 within the village in order to ensure free traffic flow and safety for motorists was approved as well as an ordinance prohibiting encroachments within the state right-of-way along LaGrange Road US Rt. 45. The ordinance states that no person, firm, corporation or other entity shall install, place, maintain or construct any structure that encroaches upon the state right-of-way on US 45. An ordinance prohibiting the discharge of sanitary and industrial waste into any storm sewer or drainage facility constructed as a part of the FAP 330, Lagrange Road Us Rt. 45 improvements was also approved.

A request to waive the bid process and authorize the village manager to execute all necessary documents for application to the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) and Illinois Clean Energy (ICE) energy programs as well as a contract with Twin Supplies LTD. for $12,122.14, provided the grants are received, to replace lighting fixtures on the exterior of the Metra Station and Metra parking lot was also approved.

Palos Heights votes down video gaming

by Matt Mayer

A motion to authorize the Village Attorney Tom Brown to draft an ordinance to amend or repeal any existing ordinances necessary to allow video gaming in the City of Palos Heights failed by a 5-3 vote at the July 2 Palos Heights City Council meeting. Alderman Jerry McGrogan said prior to the vote. "If we kill this motion today in this format, it's probably going to come back up in greater detail which isn't all that bad. There are so many questions that have come up in the last three or four months that are not in this ordinance. Some of the good comments the alderman made are not incorporated in the current ordinance," said McGrogan. "Maybe the best thing to do is to kill this so if a better ordinance comes back later, maybe we can have a referendum", said McGrogan.

The mayoral appointments of Rose Zubik, John Weglarz, and Pat Hunt to the Library Board of Trustees for a three year term expiring on May 24, 2016 was approved as well as a request for the village attorney to draft an ordinance authorizing the licensing of raffles in the city and a motion to waive the rules to adopt the ordinance. A request from the Car Classic Committee for the placement of two signs for their event on the corners 123rd Street and Harlem Avenue was also approved.

A motion to authorize the city attorney to draft an ordinance to allow a special use for a B1 permitted use in a B District for the operation of a dance studio at 6350 W. 135th Street as well as a motion to waive the rules to adopt the ordinance, and a motion to adopt the special use ordinance was also approved.

Worth Park District events

Weird Chicago Tour

Explore the history, mystery and haunts of American serial killer H.H. Holmes and the Chicago World's Fair of 1893 by joining us on Thursday August 8. Holmes operated the infamous "Murder Castle" during Chicago's Columbian Exposition. Locations on the tour will include the site of the "Murder Castle", Remnants of the 1893 World's Fair, murder sites, ghost stories and more. Fee of $50 includes both tour and transportation. Trip leaves from the Terrace Centre at 10am and is expected to return at 1:30pm. Please register by July 24.

National Ice Cream Day

Bring your whole family out to Gale Moore Park to celebrate National Ice Cream Day on Sunday, July 21, at 1 pm. The park district will be hosting exciting games, crafts, fun inflatables and of course Ice Cream!

Touch A Truck

It is always fun to get kids and big rigs together. Come out to the Terrace Centre Parking Lot on Wednesday, July 31 from 5:30-7:30pm and enjoy this free fun family event during which your little ones will enjoy a chance to play with fire trucks, police cars and large construction equipment. In the event of inclement weather this event will be cancelled due to safety concerns.

Family Fun Series

Worth Park District offers fun all summer long each day and evening. Play in the Parks events, presented by RecExpress will be delivering the good times at Homerding Park on Tuesday, July 30. 6-7:30 pm. Homerding Park is located on the corner of 116th and Oak Park Avenue. Your next Movie in the Park will be showing at Gale Moore Park on Thursday, July 25. Worth Park District is very excited to present Wreck-it-Ralph at 8pm.

Fall Softball

Its time to start pulling your team together for the next season of Fall Softball. Worth Park District is now taking registration for Men's 16" and Co-Rec 12" Softball. The deadline for registration is Monday, August 5 which is also the night of the mandatory Captain's meeting. For more information please visit us at http://www.worthparkdistrict/. org or call us at 708-448-7080.

For more information and details on registration for these programs and more please call 708-448-7080 or visit the Terrace Centre at 11500, S. Beloit Avenue in Worth, IL.

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B-MAC EDITION

Volume 7 | Number 14 | July 16, 2013

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Alsip continues red light camera controversy

by Jan Glaz

The Village of Alsip's current Red Light Camera contract will soon expire and Alsip is in search of a new company. On July 1, at the Village of Alsip Board Meeting, Trustee Shapiro opened a discussion regarding an agreement between Alsip and Gatso USA. On June 17th the Village had approved a 6 month agreement with the company; however, Gatso expressed concern in relation to the short length of the contract and requested a one year agreement which would help recoup costs in the event that Alsip decided not to continue. Trustee Ryan commented he did not have confidence in Gatso for various reasons which included trying to negotiate a year contract after the Board of Trustees agreed to 6 months. Police Chief Chris Radz supported the use of Gatso because Gatso has the best possible technology and state of the art equipment. The Village is bound by state law to do a study of every red light camera intersection to show a decline in traffic accidents in the intersection, without a decline, the cameras have to be removed, at a cost. Chief Radz commented that Gatso is the only Red Light Company that uses radar technology instead of in ground sensors which means less cost if cameras have to be transported to another intersection. Gatso's President offered to start studies at various intersections, this is important because if another location has a higher rate of accidents a camera will have to be moved. Chief Radz pointed out that Gatso is the only Red Light Camera Company that has the Amber Alert and if a license plate involved in an abduction goes through an intersection, Alsip will be notified immediately. In conclusion, Mayor Kitching commented, "We need to move this along because there will be a gap and we won't have any cameras at all."

Noteworthy approvals before the meeting adjourned: an approval for Chicago Truck to have a sales trailer on their lot at 5300 West Plattner Drive for a period of one year; an authorization for Village Properties to go out to bid for Asphalt work, Sealing and Stripping at the Village Hall and Heritage I & II; authorization for Village Properties to go out to bid for 512 stoves and refrigerators for Heritage I & II. Removed from the agenda for further discussion, an approval for Sudden Impact Customs to hold a car/sound show event on Saturday, July 21, 2013 at 12650 S. Kroll Drive, from noon to 5:00 p.m., the item will be rescheduled for approval July 8th.

Left to Right, Top Row: Coach Tomas Almazan, Michael Nesby, Agustin Castillo, Natalie Astorga, Fabian Reyes, Jared Ramirez, jose Nuno, Daniel Perez, Mia Bella Panozzo, Coach William Cazares. Bottom Row: Cristiano Sanchez, Gio Bravo, Sergio Peralta, Valeria Alatorre, Sofia Alatorre, Jasmine Almazan, Dylan Mathews, Joshua Ccoyllo, Anthony Aguilar, Xavier Vasquez.

Blue Island Bitty Soccer Players pose with participation medals and special recognition certificates after a fun-filled season. Over 40 children participated in the 6U program.

Crestwood steps up to the plate on Baseball issue

by Jan Glaz

On July 2nd Michael Kraft, President of the Crestwood Baseball Association, addressed Mayor Lou Presta and Trustees to voice his concerns on issues regarding the game of baseball in Crestwood. The fields use, condition of disrepair, and the costs of baseball, close to $27.000 this season, led to a lengthy discussion. The Baseball Association is requesting a specific direction from the Village, where to go, and what they can and cannot do to get ready for next season. During the off season anyone can use the fields but Kraft specified that this season when they would set the fields up for a game others would come in and use it, so rules need to be established and enforced.

Practices start in January and there are anywhere from 15 to 20 games in the season. Cost per player is approximately $200.00. Uniforms run about $66.00 and the remainder goes towards baseballs, umpires and the field's maintenance. Although the price of baseball stayed steady without a raise from last year, sign-up numbers are down, eighty letters were delivered and only seven returned. Many are signing up to play in other towns. "If the Village can raise enough money we can give kids who cannot afford to play an opportunity to play," said Kraft. Presta set a goal to organize fundraisers and work together with the recreation department and the Association for next year's season. "I want to get more Crestwood kids to play ball," stated Mayor Presta, " and anyone who wants to play ball is going to play ball."

Newsworthy information: In a letter to Crestwood citizens the Mayor acknowledged that over the past few months there has been a rise in complaints in regards to speeders and parking. Residents will notice an increase in police presence as there is a crackdown on parking and a definite move to ticket speeders on side streets. The amount of calls has prompted the Board of Trustees to re-post the ordinance to protect the safety of residents. An additional officer has been added to each shift to assist in patrolling; Central Avenue between 127th and 135th Street will be closed beginning July 11th due to a joint project. Cook County Highway's plan to redo Central Avenue and the Village's project to insert sidewalk. In September the AMC C stwood theaters will be doing a major makeover and Ross Dress for Less is now scheduled to be open by July 20th.

Midlothian negotiates a 50 percent bank fee reduction

by Jan Glaz

A non-refundable commitment fee of $5.000 was reduced to $2.500 due to the efforts of Community Development Director, Trustee Karen Kreis. On July 10th at the Village of Midlothian Board Meeting Trustee Kreis related that she spoke with Andy Tinberg at CNB Bank in regards to a $5.000 non-refundable commitment fee the Village was charged for a loan that never materialized and Tinberg understanding the financial situation of Midlothian agreed to a negotiated reduction of 50% of the original amount.

Before the meeting adjourned officials agreed to pay an invoice submitted in the amount of $14.000 by Robinson Engineering for design engineering for a Water Tower for the Village and an invoice in the amount of $7.379.87 to Robinson for work completed for the 2013 CDBG/MFT Road Program. When funds are available a final invoice to Loung's Corporation for work related to the Village Chambers/ Hall is approved for payment in the amount of $50.610.00. There will be savings after the purchase of two power stretchers and two stair chairs at $5400.00 each from Louis Demas, a total of $10.800.00. It's reported that once payment is received, Louis Demas will reimburse the Village for half the price of one stretcher $2.700.00 so the total cost will be reduced to $8,100.00. Trustees also allowed for three Firefighters to attend Paramedic Training through Ingalls South Cook County Paramedic Program on July 25th at a cost of $4300.00 each. And the validity of the executed Easement Agreement for the easement granted to the Fairways of Midlothian for a fence on the west 16 ½ feet of the Village's 33 foot right-of-way along Lavergne Avenue from 143rd Street to 144th Place, met with approval.

Oak Lawn approves the redesign of the village website

by Matt Mayer

A resolution regarding a proposal from Vision Internet for website redesign services was unanimously approved at a reeent Oak Lawn Board of Trustees meeting. Trustee Tim Desmond said that he had attended the technology meeting and was impressed by the technology staff. "The current provider is charging the village $3.000 a month to manage the Website. The new provider after initial set up will be charging the village $6.600 per year", said Desmond. The new Website will be almost completely interactive. People that normally come to the village to conduct business will now be able to do business online. I think it will be a huge benefit to the residents", said Desmond.

Other highlights: A resolution authorizing the submission of the 2013 Urban Area Security Initiative grant application to the Cook County Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management was approved. Trustee Terry Vorderer said that this is a great security device for District 4. "I understand that this grant will actually incorporate areas of District 4 around Advocate Christ Medical Center", said Voederer.

The following requests for this years Fall on the Green were approved: a the 2013 band contractors contracts; a tspecial events only) Class "C" Liquor License as well as an ordinance increasing the number of class "C" liquor licenses. The fest will be held on Sept. 6 thru 8.

A request from the Traffic Review Committee for a residential permit parking only sign in front of 4028 W. 106th Place was approved as well as an ordinanee approving this request. A resolution regarding the Oak Lawn Community High School Homecoming Parade on Sept. 26 was also approved.

The winners of the Oak Lawn Garden Club Beautiful Yard contest are: 1st Place. Alice Healy. 9643 S. 52nd Avenue: 2nd Place. Ann Powers, 9619 S. Normandy Avenue: 3rd Place Virginia Kileran. 9739 S. Warren Avenue.

Orland Café abandon the Metra Station

by Jan Glaz

Is-Tas-Yon Café previously under contract to operate concessions at the 153rd Street and 143rd Street Metra stations will not renew their contract, and has abandoned both locations. Rather than release a Request for Proposals for a new concession vendor the Village agreed, on July 1st, to enter into a 9 week, temporary agreement with the owner of the of the Amano Vivere Café. 9750 Crescent Park Circle. Suite A. to provide coffee and small baked items in the 143rd Street Metra concession area. The café will use this as an opportunity to advertise their new business location hy having a closer proximity to Metra commuters. Amano Vivere Café will serve the commuters for this interim period while further investigating a long term solution for both stations. Consistent with the contract. with the prior vendor. Amano Vivere Café will not be obligated to make any payments to the Village as the profit margins on this service are not significant. The primary goal of allowing for concessions in the stations is to deliver service to residents/eommuters.

Village officials aceepted an Oak Lawn Water Negotiation Contract Authorization. At present, an authorized expenditure for Holland and Knight Consultants for professional services related to negotiations for Oak Lawn water supply is expired and the authorized expenditure for Consultant WRB, LLC will he exhausted within the next sixty days. The combined amount of the contracts will be distribnted on a prorata basis and the Village's exposure would be $55.210 of $167.305 (33%). The way the proposals are written, the Village is not ohligated to pay the full amount if the hours are not used. In regards to the Public Works Department the Board of Trustees authorized the consultant services of Peter J. Casey for several projects requiring immediate advancement. The amount anticipated to be allocated for Mr. Casey is $10.000. Should the scope of the work orders increase, the agreement may be modified to include additional work requiring additional funds.

McDonald's Restaurant, at 9110 W. 159th Street, requested and was granted permission for a major overhaul that ineludes changes to both the building and site plan. The building footprint will remain as is, but updated building faeades on all four sides will reflect the eurrent McDonald's corporate style and will appear to be a newly constructed building with updated signage and architectural features. The site will also be re-landscaped and the garbage enclosure will be re-located to the rear of the site. Handicapped spaces will be re-located to the front of the building and will be connected with a sidewalk and crosswalk to the restaurant entry and to the 159th Street sidewalk. The existing McDonald's Restaurant was constructed in 1984 as a part of the Park Hill Planned Development.

Time for change

by Kelly White

Tuesday, April 9th marked a day of change for, three southside suburhs as Sandra Bury. Sharon Rybak and Mary Werner were elected into office. Sandra Bury captured 53 percent of the vote to Dave Heilmann's 46 percent in a stunning upset victory over the two-term mayor; and, with Rybak beating former Midlothian Mayor Terry Stephens and Werner taking the lead in final votes against former Worth Mayor Randy Keller, this was the first time in history three female mayors were elected by eity voters.

A new era in Oak Lawn began as the village's first woman to be eleeted mayor took her oath of offiee this past spring. Mayor Sandra Bury, a small business owner, feels it has been a privilege to help the people of Oak Lawn since she started her optometric career in 1995, and it is her goal to help residents now see the issues at hand. From her many years of service and commitment to Oak Lawn, she's put together a plan and ideas for moving Oak Lawn forward.

Mayor Bury is proud to take on the new leadership role, believing the city is ready for fresh, new leadership in Oak Lawn. Her intentions are to work strongly with the residents, to make sure their voice is heard, to ultimately make for a hetter, more positive Oak Lawn.

Mayor Sharon Rybak is also no stranger to her hometown of Midlothian. Born and raised in this town, she walked to and from Bremen High School, where she is a member of the school hoard. Mayor Rybak also is finance director for the Midlothian Park District, where she serves lunches to seniors. As the mother of four children, now of which are all adults, she's done her share of volunteering for Scout troops and athletic organizations.

Mayor Rybak is not afraid of hard work and said she will do her homework on the issues faeing the village, such as economic development and Lake Michigan water. Midlothian has joined with other suburbs to see if they can become their own water agency.

Mayor Rybak stated upon being elected mayor, one of her main goals is to get Midlothian back on the map, to make sure young families can raise their kids within the community.

Mayor Rybak also wants to get more people involved in volunteering in town and hopes to reach out to them and keep them informed by improving the village's website. She also would like to reopen the village hall on Saturday mornings.

"I love this place." Mayor Rybak said.

While running for office. Mayor Rybak pledged to make village government more accessihle and transparent. She said she intended to "make a difference" and hoped residents would give her a chanee. After the April 9th electoral outeome, it was no question they did.

Not only bringing in the first female mayor, but for the third time since the start of the 21st century, a new mayor has been elected in Worth, with the election of Mary Werner. She has yet to complete her first four-year term as a village trustee, however, defeated former Mayor Randy Keller, who was running for his second term as the village's highest elected officer. Werner received 928 votes to Keller's 784 final votes.

Mayor Werner and her fellow Village Board members were sworn in at the Terrace Center this past May, where Trustee Colleen McElroy informed residents a lot of change will be seen within the next four years, and she also shared in Mayor Werner's sentiments to the voters stating, "These are the kind of things that make us the Friendly Village."

Very humble and pleased with the voting outcome, she believes the residents of Worth are ready for change and are putting the village in good hands.

Residents within the three communities responded positively to the election of three female mayors, stating the sex of the mayor does not matter; however, the changes made within the community are what truly matters.

Editor note:
Village View Publications would like to state that all three Mayors were telephoned and none have returned a call, so Kelly White wrote this article with researching various sources for information.

Redesigned Property Tax Bill is easier to read

Owners of homes and other real property are receiving a property tax hill with bigger print that is easier to read on a bigger page that gives the owner more key information, Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas said today.

Pappas' office mailed bills for the 2nd Installment of tax year 2012 on more than 1.7 million parcels of property across Cook County. The due date is August 1.

Pappas' office increased the physical size of the bill from 8 ½ by 11 inches to 8 ½ by 14 inches to make it easier to review all the information on the bill, and used larger type to hetter show the "Taxing District Breakdown" listing the governmental bodies which tax a home, business or land and their share of the bill.

The new bill also has a revised Tax Calculator that shows how the bill was calculated and exemptions applied, and provides an "Important Messages" box giving information specific to that Property Index Number, such as:

Tax payments to be made by mortgage company escrows.

Prior-year tax delinquencies.

Current-year refunds due.

Last payment received.

Tax abatements.

Tax Increment Financing Districts.

"Making the numbers more legible on a larger page gives taxpayers a clearer and deeper look at what goes into their bill." Pappas said.

Pappas reminded owners that payments can be made from savings and banking accounts at cookcountytreasurer.com, at more than 400 Chase Bank locations across Chicagoland, and at more than 200 participating community banks.

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We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

Start your college journey at Moraine Valley's Adult College Success Fair

Ready to jump start your college experience? If you're an adult over the age of 25 and have been thinking about attending college, are newly enrolled or plan to re-enroll to complete an associate's degree or career certificate, then check out the inaugural Adult College Success Fair on Saturday, July 20, from 9 a.m. to noon, in the Moraine Rooms in Building M on the main campus, 9000 W. College Pkwy, Palos Hills. This event is free and open to the public.

Whether you have been out of school for years or are considering college for the first time, this fair aims to help you feel comfortable using campus resources to reach academic, personal and/or career goals.

Moraine Valley representatives from various career programs and departments, including health care and technology, will be in attendance as well as staff from Admissions, Academic Advising and the Counseling and Career Development Center. While at the fair, you can apply for financial aid, have an on-the-spot transcript evaluation, get help registering for classes, learn about job search strategies, and have a career assessment. Some workshops will take place as well.

"The college recognizes how dramatically the workplace and job market are changing, and we want to help adults in the community gain the knowledge and skills needed to be successful," said Peggy Heenan, Admissions recruiter. "The Adult College Success Fair provides people with an opportunity to learn more about the many programs and resources the college offers all in one place."

Can't get a babysitter to watch the kids while you attend the fair? Don't worry, there will be a supervised children's area available while you gather information and assistance. Refreshments will be served and attendants should RSVP by July 15.

To RSVP for the event or for more information, call (708) 974-5277, email blades@morainevalley.edu or visit morainevalley.edu/adultsuccess.

Internal Medicine Specialist joins MetroSouth Health Center at South Holland

Kara Davis, M.D., board-certified in Internal Medicine physician, has joined the MetroSouth Health Center at South Holland, located at 401 E. 162nd Street, South Holland, IL 60473.

A true Illini, she completed her undergraduate degree at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign; her medical degree at the University of Illinois, Chicago; and her residency in internal medicine at the University of Illinois Hospitals and Clinics, Chicago.

Dr. Davis has been treating Chicago southland and Northwest Indiana patients for over 25 years. As an Internal Medicine physician, she specializes in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of adult diseases and medical conditions. She is a member of the American Diabetes Association Live Empowered Executive Council and the American Heart Association Multicultural Leadership Committee, and is committed to assisting patients in managing chronic health problems such as diabetes, high blood pressure, and heart-related conditions. She has also authored articles on these topics, among others, in more than 18 periodicals and publications.

Dr. Davis is now accepting new patients and welcomes most insurance plans, including Medicare. To schedule an appointment or a free 15-minute "getting to know you" session, call 708-210-2001. To learn more, visit www.metrosouthmedicalcenter.com

Tinley Park-Park District Calendar of Events

Friday, August 2: "Cool" Friday Nights At The VVAC-Tinley Park Community Jazz Band

Are you looking for something unique and fun to do on Friday nights? Stop by the beautifully landscaped Vogt Visual Arts Center to hear live jazz. Be sure to stop inside to see our gallery filled with art by local artists. Stay "cool" this summer with the Tinley Park-Park District. These family events are FREE and fun for all! The Vogt Visual Arts Center is located at 17420 S. 67th Court in Tinley Park.

Sunday, August 4: Tinley Junction Mini Golf Tournament

Test your skills on our mini-golf course and compete for prizes at our mini golf tournament. All ages and abilities are welcome. The tournament includes: Parent/Child Team Competition, adult and children divisions and a hole-in-one challenge. Prizes will be awarded. Please call (708) 342-4214 to sign up and reserve a tee time. Tee times are first-come first-served and reservations are needed by Thursday, August 1. The fee is $5 Child/$6 Adult. Tinley Junction Mini Golf and Batting Cages is located at 16801 S. 80th Avenue in Tinley Park.

Tuesday, August 6: Park District Resident Registration Begins

Residents of the Tinley Park-Park District may begin to register for Fall 2013 programs starting at 9:00 a.m. on August 6. Residents may register online at www.tinleyparkdistrict.org, or by mailing in or dropping off their registration forms at the Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center (8125 W. 171st Street, Tinley Park) at this time. In person resident registration will begin at 9:00 a.m. on August 13.

Thursday, August 8: Free Concert in the Park featuring The Neverly Brothers

Fasten your seatbelts for a guided musical tour through Rock 'n' Roll history! This is truly a one-of-a-kind retro rock show that takes you from Elvis to the Beatles. The concert begins at 7:00 p.m. at the Outdoor Band Shell at the Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center (8125 W. 171st Street, Tinley Park). Admission is free, concessions will be sold, and this is an all-ages event. Don't forget your lawn chairs or blankets!

Monday, August 12: Thomas the Train Day at Tinley Junction

Come see our Thomas the Train on our Garden Railroad. All golfers receive special treats, and train rides are available! This event will be from 10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at Tinley Junction (16801 S. 80th Avenue, Tinley Park).

Tuesday, August 13: Park District In Person Registration Begins

Residents of the Tinley Park-Park District may begin to register for Fall 2013 programs in person at the Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center (8125 W. 171st Street, Tinley Park) beginning at 9:00 a.m. on August 13. Non-residents may begin to register the following week.

Wednesday, August 14: Art Anties at Tinley Junction

Joining in the fun at the Tinley Junction! Your afternoon will include a game of mini golf featuring our Garden Model Railroad, a surprise summer craft, and dinner at our concession stand. The fee is $11 Resident/$15 Non-Resident. Class is held from 4:00-5:15 p.m., and you must register ahead of time at the Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center (8125 W. 171st Street, Tinley Park). For more information call the Tinley Junction at (708) 614-1854. Tinley Junction Mini Golf and Batting Cages is located at 16801 S. 80th Avenue in Tinley Park.

Wednesday, August 14: Escape From Planet Earth – Movies in the Park

Going out to the big screen with the entire family can be pricey! Instead, bring your blanket, and be entertained under the stars at the Outdoor Band Shell of the Bettenhausen Recreation Center! Concessions will be sold! In case of inclement weather, the movie will be shown in the Rec Center Gym. Movie starts at dusk.

Thursday, August 15: Get Your Family Organized for School

Mothers think they will soon be heading back to sanity, when that yellow school bus arrives, but reality is that the school papers, schedules, lunches and sports all come flooding in. Yikes! So how can we start the school year off without these factors weighing us down? Learn step-by-step solutions to get you organized. The fee is $10 resident/$13 Non-resident. For more information please call the Park District at (708) 342-4200.

Sunday, August 18: Free Concert in the Park featuring the Tinley Park Community Jazz Band

Our final concert in our summer series will bring jazz to life at the Outdoor Band Shell at the Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center (8125 W. 171st Street, Tinley Park) with the sounds of the Tinley Park Community Jazz Band. Join us as we finish our summer series with music that all can enjoy! Bring the whole family! Admission is free and concessions will be sold at the event. Don't forget your blankets or lawn chairs!

Tuesday, August 20: Non-resident Registration Begins

Non-residents may begin to register for Fall 2013 Tinley Park-Park District programs beginning at 9:00 a.m. on August 20. Non-residents may register online at www.tinleyparkdistrict.org, or by mailing in or dropping off their registration form at the Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center (8125 W. 171st Street, Tinley Park).

Tuesday, August 20: Senior Luncheons

Join us at the Drop-In Center for one of our monthly luncheons! The Park District offers luncheons at the Drop-In Center on the third Tuesday of each month for adults age 60 and over. Lunch is served at 11:30 a.m. Registration deadline is one week before luncheon. The lunch menu will be available the first of every month and is subject to change. The fee is $3.50 for Drop-In Members and $4.50 for Non-Members.

Wednesday, August 21: Non-resident In Person Registration Begins

Non-residents may begin to register for programs in person at the Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center (8125 W. 171st Street, Tinley Park) beginning at 9:00 a.m. on August 21. At this time, both online and in person registration is open to everyone for Fall 2013 programs.

Tinley Park-Park District is located at 8125 W. 171st Street, Tinley Park, IL 60477.

For more information call (708) 342-4200 or visit www.tinleyparkdistrict.org

Summer School Supplies and Food Drive

Join forces with the Alsip-Merrionette Park Public Library to make sure that all students have a great start to their 2013 school year. The library will be collecting new pencils, pens, paper, crayons and other school supplies and food between August 17. All donations will be distributed to area students and families in need by the Worth Township office. You can drop them off at the library, 11960 S. Pulaski Road.

National Hot Dog Day

Celebrate with the Village of Palos Park!

National Hot Dog Day is on Tuesday, July 23rd. The Village of Palos Park will be celebrating on the Village Green located behind the Recreation Center at 8901 West 123rd Street from 5pm until 7pm. Rain location is inside the Recreation Center. Come and enjoy a picnic atmosphere, musical entertainment by Blue Willie T and Da Midnite Lovers, and a hot off the grill hot dog with all the fixings for only 50 cents. Chips and drinks will also be available.

This fun filled family event is sponsored by Watch Dog Pet Sitting, The Pooper Scoopers, and Standard Bank. For additional information, call 708-671-3760.

Banks, Credit Unions, Mortgage Company's, Insurance Agencies, Real Estates, advertising rates at www.vvnew.com or call 708-425-1910.

Out and About

with Kelly White

Alsip

Alsip Park District will be hosting their Farmers Market every Tuesday from now through October 8th from 3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at the Apollo Recreation Center Parking Lot, 12521 South Kostner Avenue, with live bands on August 6th and September 10th. Come out and enjoy the fresh produce, homemade items, local vendors, prepared foods, children's activities and more!

VFW Memorial Post 450, 11800 S. Cicero Ave., is asking for help to complete the Veterans Plaza and Path of Honor located at 11801 S. Pulaski Road. Veterans, relative and friends and business are encouraged to participate. Purchasing a memorial brick is a way to remember all veterans, past and present. Bricks can be purchased for $100 apiece. For more information, please call: 708-388-2387.

The Worth Township Seniors will hold a free Rules of the Road class from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. August 7th and October 2nd. Appointment must be made to attend. Call the Worth Township Senior Room at 708-371-2900, ext. 28. Worth Township Center is located at 11601 Pulaski Road in Alsip.

Blue Island

At the Blue Island Park District, 12804 S. Highland Ave., yoga is affordable. We dare you to find a more convenient, close to home, well priced, yoga class in the area. Pick from Intro to Yoga, Advanced Yoga, or Yoga for seniors, all which are taught by the area's best yoga instructors. Intro and Advanced Classes begin July 22nd through August 26th (6 weeks) $42/resident $54/Non-resident. Yoga for seniors begins July 31st through September 4th at a price of $42/resident, $62/Non-resident.

Crestwood

Watch our own Thunderbolts take on the Frontier Grays and support the Blue Island/Crestwood Rotary on August 8th at 7:05 p.m., call Lynn at 708-239-1323 ext. 21 for more information. Tickets are $10 at Thunderbolts Stadium, 14011 S. Kenton Avenue.

Midlothian

The Midlothian Park District holds monthly Senior Luncheons at Raday Lodge. These luncheons are open to the public and tickets can be purchased at the Don Preston Recreation Center, 14500 S. Kostner or Village Hall, 14801 Pulaski. Tickets are $7.00 each. Doors open at 9:30 a.m. and lunch is served promptly at 11:00 a.m. The next luncheon will be held on August 9th with a meal provided by Brown's Chicken.

Oak Forest

The Oak Forest Farmers Market is held every Tuesday through October 8th 3:00 p.m. at the Central Park Building.

The Oak Forest Community Center, 15501 S. Kilpatrick Avenue, is available for use by families and organizations during summer parties or activities. Requests to rent this facility are welcome and will be accommodated on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information or to rent the facility, please contact Jim Richmond at 708-687-4050, ext. 1005.

Tinley Park

Family Camp Out on July 19th from 5:30 p.m. until July 20th at 10:00 a.m. at the Community Park - West Parking Lot, 8125 W. 171st Street. Bring your tent and sleeping bags for a fun filled night under the stars. Planned activities include a late night movie on the giant blimp screen, campfire complete with s'mores, star gazing and more! White Water Canyon Park will be open until 8:30 p.m. for everyone camping out. All campers will enjoy a continental breakfast in the morning. Space is limited, register early.

Visit the Farmers Market from 7 a.m. to noon Saturdays from June through October for the best selection of fresh fruits, vegetables, flowers and much more. It is held in downtown Zabrocki Plaza, 17375 Oak Park Avenue.

Worth

At the Worth Farmers and Flea Market, located at 110th and Depot Street, residents can find many treasures including: produce, baked goods, household items and more! The next Community Market is scheduled for Sunday, July 21st from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

The Terrace Center, 11500 Beliot Ave., has an indoor playground featuring slides, a climbing wall, tree house and more for children who can walk through 4 years old. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Fee is $1 for residents, $2 for non-residents. For more information call 708-448-7080.

The Village of Worth will be hosting its annual Worth Days this summer Thursday, August 22nd through Sunday, August 25th, with an entrance fee of $3 for Worth residents and $5 for non-residents. Children ages 16 and under and senior citizens ages 60 and older are free.

Burbank

Having a summer party? The Burbank Park District offers gazebo rentals available for your next big get together. With a two-hour minimum, they are located at: Stevenson Park, 85th and State Road, Harr Park, 83rd and Laramie, Nottingham Park, 7707 S. McVicker Avenue and Owens Park, 78th and LeClaire. You can reserve a date by going to www.hurbankparkdistrict.org and logging in to the online registration form. You may also contact Julie Court at 708-599-2070 for more information.

Justice

A flea market will be held at the Justice Community Center, 7256 Skyline Drive, on Saturday, August 24th from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Evergreen Park

A crochet club for teens and adults will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesdays through August 13th at the Evergreen Park Library, 9400 S. Troy Avenue. Beginners should bring an H/8 crochet hook and yarn will be provided. Non-beginners should bring a current project. Registration is required.

Evergreen Park Recreation Department is sponsoring Square Dance plus lessons and workshops this summer. The classes are hosted by Swing'n Sugar Squares Square Dance Club and the workshop dances for experienced dancers will be held from 7:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. on Thursday evenings through August 22nd, except July 24th, at the Evergreen Park Community Center, 3450 W. 97th Street. There is a $5 fee per person.

Hickory Hills

Teens, ages 12-17, can escape the summer heat and come splash around with an event sponsored by the Hickory Hills Park District at the biggest water park in Illinois, Raging Waves Water Park. This water park offers speed slides, raft rides, tube slides, lazy river, plunge slides, wave pool and much more. A $27 per teen includes: includes transportation, all day ticket, parking and chaperone. On Friday, July 19th teens will depart from Krueger Park Recreation Center, 9100 S. 88th Avenue, at 9:00 a.m. and return at 4:00 p.m.

The Hickory Hills Park District, is hosting a pizza bags tournament and social for adults ages 50 and older on Friday, August 2nd from 11:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. at the Krueger Park Gym, 9100 S. 88th Avenue. There is a $6 fee per resident und a $7 fee per non-resident. Fee includes coffee, soda, pizza and prizes. Lunch will be served at noon and a non-competitive tournament will begin after lunch.

Children can get The Museum Adventure Pass from the Green Hills Public Library, 8611 W. 103rd Street. This pass allows free entry into many museums in the area including: Brookfield Zoo, Chicago Botanic Garden, Oak Lawn Children's Museum and more! For more information visit the library.

Oak Lawn

The Oak Lawn Park District offers duplicate bridge every Monday at 11:30 a.m. at the Oak View Center, 4625 W. 110th Street. Cost is $7 per person and includes a light lunch. All ages are welcome. For more information call 708-857-2200.

Oak Lawn Public Library, located at 9427 S. Raymond, sponsors three adult writers groups that meet year-round. A general interest group meets from 10:00 a.m. to noon on the second and fourth Saturday of each month. Writers interested in screen-writing meet from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Saturday of each month. Budding children's authors meet from 10:00 a.m. to noon on the third Thursday of each month. Meetings include readings, critiques and writing exercise. New members are welcome anytime. No registration is required.

The annual Fall on the Green Festival is held the weekend after Labor Day. This family friendly event has everything you look for in a festival - great food, wonderful entertainment, games, and vendors of all types. This event takes place on the Village Green located at 95th Street and Cook Avenue. There is no charge for admission, parking or rides.

Orland Park

The Orland Park Park District is sponsoring a weekend getaway to Wisconsin Dells on September 27th through September 29th for ages 13 and up. There is a fee of $425.00 for residents and $640.00 for non-residents. This 3 day/2 night trip will be filled with adventures such as fishing, hiking, boating, cooking, and venturing around the downtown Dells urea . Everyone will receive a T-shirt. Please indicate size when registering. Registration deadline: August 2nd.

The Orland Park Civic Center Farmers Market, 14750 Ravinia Ave., offers over 30 vendors offer a variety of fresh produce, flowers, plants, pasta, bakery items, gourmet spices, jewelry, home and garden items, purses, beauty products, and more. Barbecue lunches sponsored by local charities are available for purchase through August 9. For more information, please call 708-403-6145.

Chicago Ridge

The Our Lady of the Ridge Knights of Columbus chapter will present its summer flea market the second Sunday of every month from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the church, 108th Street and Ridgeland Ave. in Chicago Ridge. Markets will be held on July 13th, August 10th, September 14th and October 12th. The event will feature more than 35 vendors.

Mark your calendars for the 2013 Ridgefest, scheduled to take place Thursday, July 25th through Sunday, July 28th.

The American Legion-Glen Maker Post 1160, 106th and Ridgeland Avenue in Chicago Ridge will hold their 5th annual car show on Sunday, July 28th.

Palos Hills

Come out to stargaze at Moraine Valley Community Center as it hosts its series of telescope open viewing nights this summer. All open viewings are held at the telescope dome on the G. Jack Bradley Observation Deck, located on the west side of the college's Nature Study Area, off Kean Avenue near 107th Street. Observers can park in the lots east of Building P or in the west section of the Building D parking lot. Dates and times for this season's open viewings include the following Fridays: August 16th, at 8:15 p.m., September 13th at 7:15 p.m. and October 11th at 6:30 p.m.

Moraine Valley Community College has added a session of Minecraft Makerbot this July. The eFun Academy is part of the college's summer Valley Learning Center for kids. Kids ages 8-13 will work with a partner to build and program a LEGO robot to solve Minecraft-inspired challenges. The class will be from July 22nd until July 25th from 9:30 a.m. until noon. The fee is $129. Use course code PY4-647-002 when registering.

Palos Hills residents 55 years and older meet from noon until 2 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at the Palos Hills Community Center, 8455 W. 103rd Street. Tickets for events must be purchased one week in advance. Entertainment includes musicians, singers, luncheons, movies and plays and bingo.

Palos Park

StagePlay Junior, at the Palos Park Recreation Department, located at 8901 W. 123rd Street is a great introduction to musical theater for kids ages 5-7. Participants will also have an opportunity to perform in the chorus of the StagePlay production of "Jazz: A Swingin' Celebration". Classes are Monday through from July 29th through August 2nd, with a final performance held on August 2nd at 7:00 p.m. For more information, email info@stageplaykids.com.

The Autumn in the Park Festival is being expanded to include Friday night musical entertainment, food and spirits. Saturday features amateur rib competition and sanctioned chili competitions as well as numerous activities and music for the whole family. By popular demand the fest has brought back the hand Libido Funk Circus to perform beginning at 7:00 p. m. Save the dates for Friday evening, September 20th and Saturday, September 21st for the 2013 Autumn In The Park Festival.

Palos Heights

Every Wednesday through October 9th, the city of Palos Heights will be hosting a Farmers Market at 13317 S. Harlem Avenue from 7:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Lake Katherine, 7402 Lake Katherine Drive, is offering Stargazing on Saturday, August 17th at 8:00 p.m. This is a free event and children are welcomed. No pre-registration required. Please meet near the telescope located in the Anniversary Garden.

Dueling Pianos returning to the Beverly Arts Center

by Kelly White

All American Dueling Pianos, featuring Dan Gillogly and Ted Oliver, will perform on Saturday, July 27th at 8 p.m. at Beverly Arts Center, 2407 W. 111th St., Chicago.

Excellent musicians and master showmen, Gillogly and Oliver share their love of music with the audience through many well-known songs. Gillogly has written and performed music for A&E, Comedy Central, and Fox-TV, and he was also the Music Director at The Second City for five years. Oliver developed his high energy style Las Vegas at the internationally known "Howl at the Moon". He owns and performs at Milwaukee's Lucille's Piano Bar & Grill, and is known for his energetic and comedie musical style. Tickets are $20 and $18 for BAC members, 773-445-3838 or Main Stage at www.beverlyarteenter.org..

The Dueling Pianos concept is all about fun. Put two beautiful grand pianos on stage, add two impossibly talented and outgoing entertainers who play and sing with gusto, add a ton of tunes, everything from The Beatles to Nickelback from Bon Jovi to Carrie Underwood, from Jerry Lee Lewis to Journey, from Adelle to ZZ Top. Throw in a heaping helping of audience participation and you have a recipe for an unforgettable event. But don't be misled by the title, because dueling pianists don't really "duel" each other; rather it is two voices and four hands that bring a wide variety of music to life. And guess who decides the play list? That's right, it's the live audience. The show is request driven which means each show is unique and tailored to your guests' musical tastes.

Gillogly and Oliver's shows have been known to be a high energy concert that's musically superb and hilariously funny.

"They always perform to big crowds at Beverly Arts Center and their show is so much fun!" Grace Kuikman stated on behalf of the Beverly Arts Center. "They are very talented musicians and they are very funny. They always draw in the audience, which adds to the fun. They have a really big musical repertoire, everything from oldies and rock to popular and the standards."

Dueling Pianos has performed at the Beverly Arts Center in the past, and with previous excellent turnouts, the duo has chosen the center for another show.

Advertise in our August 6th
Back to School issue!
For advertising rates call Linda at 708-425-1910
or visit www.vvnew.com

Summer weather has arrived in Evergreen Park

Please be reminded that in the event of extreme heat during this summer, the Community Center is a designated cooling center. Please call (708) 229-3373 for hours.

This week is Branch Pickup Week! Next Week is Recycling Pickup Week.

Download a full year's schedule online at www.evergreenpark-ill.com.

Sprinkling hours: 7am to 11am; 7pm to 11pm.

Vehicle sticker renewal applications will be sent out in August. The renewal deadline date has been changed to September 15 of each year.

Next Movie in the Park. "Wreck-it Ralph" Animated Comedy Friday Night, July 19 8:45pm at Duffy Park.

Next free summer concert. "Neverly Brothers" Sunday, July 21, 6pm at Circle Park.

The Office of Citizens Services one-day trip to Quilt Gardens of Elkhart County Tuesday, July 30 Depart at 8am ($80).

AARP Driver Safety Program Thursday & Friday, August 1 & 2 ($12 members / $14 non-members).

Christmas in July! for the Village Pantry Coalition. Monetary Donation appreciated in assisting Evergreen Park residents due to unemployment or illness. Bring, or mail, to the Office of Citizens Services, 3450 W. 97th Street.

Mini-hus and Meals on Wheels Services available through the Office of Citizen Services. For more information on ANY of the above events, call (708) 422-8776.

Farmers Market is open every Thursday, 7am to 1pm!

Recreation Department Happenings

Summer Programs: For information and pricing on these programs, please call (708) 229-3373.

Youth Commission: The Youth Center is open Tuesday to Friday, 1pm to 5pm. A variety of activities, games and social activities are available for youths from 5th grade through High School. Call the Evergreen Park Youth Commission for additional information and opportunities. This is a fun, safe place to be!

Upcoming summer trips include horseback riding, space golf, rock climbing and Comiskey Park tour.

For more information, call (708) 229-3377.

Evergreen Park Chamber of Commerce News

Evergreen Park Chamber Annual Golf Outing, Friday, August 2. Check www.evergreenpark-chamber.org for more info, or call (708) 424-7850.

Community Events

The Athletic Field at Evergreen Park Community High School is being renovated and improved; unfortunately, the running track will be closed for the summer. Please remember that the track at Yukich Field is always available to you.

99th Street Summer Theatre Festival (Mother McAuley High School) "Shrek: The Musical" July 25, 26, 27 at 8pm (Thurs - Sat). Call 773-881-6512 for information and tickets.

Adult College Success Fair Saturday, July 20 9am-Noon at Moraine Valley Community College, Palos Campus Moraine Rooms, Building M. Assistance in Financial Aid Applications, Transcript Evaluation, Course Selection, Career Assessment, Job Search Strategies. Supervised Children's Area. Call (708) 974-5277 for more information and to register.

USO BBQ For The Troops Fundraiser Saturday, July 20th 11am to 3pm. Advance Tickets, $20; at the event, $25 Call Tom Sinon at (708) 636-6600 for location and more information.

EP School District 124 Student Registration August 5, 6, 7, 8 and 12. Pickup day is Thursday, August 15. See www.d124.org for more details.

Evergreen Park Classic Car Show coming on Friday, October 4!!!

American Legion Post 991 car wash

American Legion Post 991 is having a car wash Saturday, July 20, 2013 from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm.

The wash will be at 11001 S. Depot, Worth, cost is a $5 donation (or more appreciated).

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Build a boat using only cardboard & duct tape... and race it!
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Illinois and Michigan Canal July Board Meeting

Members of the Civic Center Authority Board of the Illinois and Michigan Canal will meet on Thursday, July 25, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. at the Heritage Corridor Visitors Center. The Visitors Center is located at 7800 West 65th Street in Bedford Park, Illinois 60501, behind the Bedford Park Library on Archer Road. At the Board meeting, plans will be discussed for A River Thru History event to be held on September 7-8, 2013 in Columbia Woods. This event features a Native American Indian-Furtraders Party. Plans will also be discussed for work at the Santa Fe Prairie, Nature Preserve, in Hodgkins, Illinois and the Chicago Portage Site, explored by Louis Jolliet and Father Jacques Marquette in Lyons, Illinois. The public is encouraged to attend the meeting. Plenty of free Illinois maps and booklets are available about the Illinois Canal towns located on the Heritage Corridor from Lockport to LaSalle-Peru, Illinois. Walking, driving, and bicycling trails now replace much of the canal's space. Discover the rich history of our neighborhoods.

For additional information, call Ned Capouch, Chairman, at 708 496-0193. Look forward to seeing you.

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Congratulations to the Village View Newspaper, a fixture in our community for four decades.
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Orland Park Record Collectors

The best music has had to offer during the past 60 years will be represented at the Record Collectors Show being held at the Orland Park Georgio's Comfort Inn, 8800 W. 159th Street on Saturday, August 3rd from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

More than 40 tables will feature thousands of albums and 45 rpm records. A variety of cassettes, CD's, magazines, posters and memorabilia will also be showcased. Many catagories of music will be available including Rock, Country, Heavy Metal, Soundtracks, Comedy, Blues, Jazz and Pop.

If your looking for that forgotten oldie or just enjoy the listening pleasure of good music this is a show not to miss. General admission is $3.00 and free to children 12 & under. For more information call (773) 585-6254.

Smith Village honors Jim Fitch for 40 years of service

Smith Village residents, staff and friends turn out to honor Jim Fitch (center) at a ceremony that included a reading of a congratulatory letter from Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel. A stone placed in the garden at Smith Village continuing care retirement community (CCRC) in Beverly commemorates the accomplishments of Fitch, who devoted 40 years of service to Smith Senior Living before retiring this spring.

Joining him at the dedication are (l. to r.) Bill Hunding, chairman of the Smith Village board of trustees and a Smith Village resident; Kevin McGee, president and chief executive officer of Smith Senior Living; Fitch; Marti Jatis, executive director of Smith Village; and 19th Ward alderman Matt O'Shea. As Smith's special projects manager, Fitch coordinated the construction of Smith Village, which replaced the former Washington & Jane Smith Home in 2007. Having also served for 17 years on the Smith Senior Living board of trustees, Fitch lives at Smith Crossing in south suburban Orland Park, another Smith Senior Living community for which he coordinated construction completed in 2004 and a recent $37 million expansion.

Chicago Ridge's RidgeFest 2013

July 25-28

at FREEDOM PARK

2 Blocks East of Ridgeland, on Birmingham (104th)

Live Music, Carnival, Great Food & Beer Garden All Four Days!

Fireworks at Dusk! Sunday, July 28th

Opens at 5:30 on Thursday and Friday, 3:00 Saturday & 2:00 Sunday

FEST ADMISSION

Thursday & Sunday $5 ✦ Friday $10 ✦ Saturday $15
Saturday Pre-sale at www.ticketalternative.com
Residents will receive a discount on Saturday tickets at Village Hall. Residents will have free admission on Sunday with ID.
Children under 10 are free. No senior discount.

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Saturday: **Ted Nugent**
with **Rendition**
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and **Jin & Tonic**
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Photo by Liz Lauren
André de Shields (King Louie) and Akash Chopra (Mowgli) in Tony Award winner Mary Zimmerman's new musical adaptation of The Jungle Book at Goodman Theatre.

Goodman Theatre announces The Jungle Book extension until August 11

by Annette Dixon

How many times can I say I love it? All of it, The Jungle Book, a new musical based on the Disney Animated Film and the stories of Rudyard Kipling.

Mary Zimmerman, director of this once in a lifetime production is so direct and concentrated in every detail that she was able to accomplish a very difficult feat. The feat was successfully directing a cast of 18 actors, many times nine to fifteen on the stage at one time, also, with an extraordinary large set. The Goodman Stage is not as large as the Opera House and yet the sets were immense. It is no wonder this director has such a high caliber of talent, and therefore succeed in her business.

Mary Zimmerman is the recipient of a 1998 MacArthur Fellowship, the 2002 Tony Award for Best Director of a play and numerous Jeff Awards. She is an artistic associate of Goodman Theatre, a member of Lookingglass Theatre Company and a professor of performance studies at Northwestern University.

It is agreed that one cannot put a play on by herself, but it is obvious that there are many talented people in all aspects of the production. In this review, I am only focusing on direction and set design.

Daniel Ostling is a Tony Award nominee and he is based in San Francisco and New York City. He is a member of Lookingglass Theatre Company and has designed over 18 productions including Eastland at Lookingglass Theatre. He is a genius in set design, hope for his Jeff nomination with this production of "The Jungle Book.

The Jungle Book production is by far the best large production Goodman Theatre has successfully displayed. It is usually the larger houses that would produce the likes of this play.

As you can tell I certainly loved this play and intend to give it a 5 Star Rating. Even the tickets are exciting for only $30 and up. This play runs approximately 2 hours and 10 minutes including a 15 minute intermission, so you can still bring the children. I heard someone say at intermission, "I don't know if this was produced for children or adults?" I guess it doesn't matter, for you can see it by calling 312-443-3800 or visit GoodmanTheatre.org.

Steppenwolf's Belleview brings a flare to relationships

by Annette Dixon

An extraordinary play featured at Steppenwolf until August 25th is unique in the sense of relationships. It's about a newly married couple who live in Paris and discover each other losing themselves in their relationship. Whether it is substance abuse or living a lie, this edgy psychological thriller has the audiences attention.

Belleville is a Chicago Premiere written by Amy Herzog and directed by Anne Kauffman, with a cast of Steppenwolf ensemble members, Alana Arenas, Kate Arrington, Cliff Chamberlain, who has performed in many Chicago Theaters, and Chris Boykin, who was in Head of Passes.

The effort of the entire production staff made Belleview a play worth seeing. Tickets start at $20 through Audience Services 1650 North Halsted St., Chicago 312-335-1650 or steppenwolf.org

Haven Theatre Chicago presents their inaugural production Hedwig and The Angry Inch

by Annette Dixon

This is Carol Cohen's first production as producer on a professional level and also costume designer. She is also the founder and Executive Director of Haven Theatre. As a graduate of Columbia College in Chicago, she majored in theater with a concentration in Costume Design.

Hedwig, Ryan Lanning who has appeared at Chicago Shakespeare, The Adventurers of Pinocchio and Candide, Goodman Theatre and other theaters in Chicago, gave an exceptional performance. It was quite clear with Hedwig singing, Tear Me Down, The Angry Inch, what drama took place in her life.

The solid musical performance won an Obie and many musical awards for its hit film adaptation of an ignored song stylist Hedwig Schmidt from East Germany. Hedwig had a botched sex change to become a female. This is a rock gig with stand up comedy backed up by a rocking band, called The Angry Inch. Lauren Paris played Yitzhak who was Hedwig's partner on stage and harmonized with Hedwig. She did a fantastic job.

The Band consisted of Kory Danielson, Music Director/Keys and most recently Kory conductor/pianist for Smokey Joe's Cafe.

Nicholas Davio is a Chicago based Music Director and Vocal Coach.

Eric Engelson, Drums has been a working professional drummer for many Chicago Theater Companies, occasionally subbing for Million Dollar Quartet.

The play continues until August 11. Tickets prices are only $32 and can be purchased by visiting www.theaterwit.org or by calling the box office at 773-975-8150.

The Burden of Not Having a Tail

by Annette Dixon

The play was very interesting considering that this was a one woman show. How is it possible to be prepared for everything you need to survive the inevitable apocalypse. Well Carrie Barrett wrote about how to be fully equipped in an underground bunker, and Karie Miller walks us through everything you need with the help of the audience.

It's a fun play with lots of comedy and truthfulness and very entertaining. The Burden of Not Having a Tail can remind you of either yourself, family and friends who think outside the box and also become n little quirky.

You have until August 4th to see this play at the Chicago Dramatists, 1105 West Chicago Avenue. Tickets are $20, student, seniors $15 for select Thurs., Sun. performances. Go on line Tickets@sideshowtheatre.org

The Casuals is performing at The Store Front Theater

by Annette Dixon

At first I though this was going to be a rock band, but I was virtually surprised that it is about Richard who is force to confront his past from a secret of 15 years he retained from his military days during the 50's. When family come overs well you know the rest, things happen and this is for you to enjoy.

I was surprised to see a great play, several of the actors were not projecting but it was the first night jitters.

The Casuals is written by Chance Bone and Andrew Burden Swnnson and directed by Jonathan Berry.

This is a World Premiere for Jackalope Theatre Company, who will be producing more plays this season and next in association with the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events. Their vision is to inspire young artist and a growing audience by producing plays and conducting meaningful outreach in an artistic home of our own. Our work will lead the charge, as we employ our experience, knowledge and imagination to earn our place in the new American frontier.

The Staff for Jackalope is AJ Ware, Artistic Director, Kaiser Ahmed, Associate Artistic Director, Nat Silver, Managing Director, Andrew Swanson, Director of Development and Community Engagement.

The Company includes, Gus Menary, Jon Cohen, Patrick Whalen, Danny Martinez, Claire Sangster, John Lambert.

The Casuals is at the Storefront Theater, 66 East Randolph St. in Chicago. General Admission is $15 and $10 with Student Discount (ID Card). Performing until July 28, tickets can be purchased by calling 773-340-2543 or visit jackalopetheate.org/tickets.

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Staying cool at home while saving on energy costs

(NAPSA)-Before summer kicks into high gear, consider converting your home into an eco-friendly and energy-saving one. An excellent place to start is with your window coverings. Cooling your house with cellular shades, solar screens or window film provides a multitude of benefits that can not only save you money, but create a more enjoyable home environment as well.

Studies have shown that the largest portion of a home's energy bill comes from the heating and cooling of its interior. While many families are not in a position to make costly energy-efficient up_dates to their air-conditioning systems, installing window treatments that help regulate internal temperatures is the next best thing.

Cellular Shades

Few window coverings can provide better insulation than cellular shades. Because of their double-cell design, they help keep air from entering and/or escaping. As a result, your home will be cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter. This can lead to energy bill savings of up to 30 percent. Cellular shades come in various transparencies to help you create the ideal privacy and lighting levels.

Solar Screens

Solar screens are a summertime necessity. They effectively block the sun's rays while allowing cool breezes through on hot days. If used throughout the home, solar screens can lower interior temperatures by as much as 10 degrees, reducing de_pendency on air-conditioning systems. Retractable screens are also available, which allow you to open your view at any time. This makes them ideal for porches and patios.

Window Film

Many homeowners have beautiful views that they would like to preserve. This makes it difficult to find the right window treatment. Window film is an excellent solution. Window film blocks over 80 percent of the sun's UV rays while providing an unobstructed view of the outside. It also reduces solar heat gain while protecting your interiors from the sun.

Summertime is the perfect season to enjoy get-togethers with friends and family, and choosing the right window coverings can help you celebrate in comfort and style while reducing your energy costs. Budget Blinds has a wide selection of energy-efficient window coverings available to help keep your home cool in the summer. The company provides free in-home consultations and complete measuring and installation services. For more information, visit www.budgetblinds.com.

Certifications help Tech School students and seasoned technicians

(NAPSA)-For many high school graduates, the path to a professional career will take them to technical schools and community colleges, where they can be trained for good-paying jobs in as little as two years.

Thousands of technical jobs remain unfilled due to the lack of skilled labor. In fact, according to Businessweek.com, there are more than 600,000 manufacturing jobs alone that remain vacant because people don't have the necessary skills required to do them.

Certification

To help close this labor gap, many technical schools and community colleges across the country partner with Snap-on Incorporated to teach specific disciplines designed to give students a leg up on the competition when they enter the workforce. Snap-on, a leading manufacturer of tools, equipment and diagnostics for the transportation, aviation/aerospace and manufacturing sectors, has developed certification programs for students to receive extra training in certain technical disciplines.

These certifications are offered in automotive scanner diagnostics, diesel scanner diagnostics, mechanical and electronic torque, multimeter, wheel service and alignment, asset management and tool control, horticulture, and building performance. More than 70 technical schools across the country offer certifications as part of their curriculum. Since 2007, about 10,000 certifications have been earned by more than 5,500 students, including 538 this past spring.

The goal of the certifications is not to teach how a vehicle operates or how an aircraft flies; rather, it is to teach technicians the proper and best way to use specific tools and equipment to become more productive in their jobs.

Snap-on certifications provide an across-the-board standard for the partnering technical schools to provide in-depth instruction on tool use, theory and application. The certifications are not add-ons, but rather are integrated into the existing courses offered by the partnering schools. Certifications include about 16 hours of instruction, and are blended into the school's course programming.

Advantages To Students,

Technicians and Teachers

There are many advantages for students to participate. For starters, it makes them more well-rounded technicians. Students who become certified in a specific course have a better understanding of the tools and equipment used in that discipline, making them more productive for employers.

Second, students who have earned certifications are more employable than those without them. Certifications give them an advantage on the competition. Finally, students can now enter the workforce with industry-recognized certifications.

Certifications aren't just limited to students as seasoned technicians can also benefit from them. As skilled labor continues to become more complex, it's imperative that technicians on the job today maintain their skills and stay abreast of tool technology in their profession.

Snap-on has also worked to develop and improve the support offered to partner schools. Teachers are taught standardized approaches on how to train their students, ensuring that curriculum is delivered in a consistent format nationwide.

How To Enroll

To facilitate the certifications in the partnering schools, Snap-on works with the National Coalition of Certification Centers (NC3), an organization that validates and oversees the certification assessment standards. For more information on the certification program or to see a list of par_ticipating schools, visit www1.snapon.com/education; e-mail Frederick Brookhouse at Frederick.p.brookhouse@snapon.com; or visit www.nc3.net.

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Add a gardenlike feel to your next meal with these tasty kabobs, made with Del Monte peaches.

Create a delicious meal from the garden in your pantry

(NAPSA)-Looking to add some color to your dinner table? Decorate your plate with canned fruits and vegetables, which are packed with nutrition and provide garden quality all year long.

For your next family gathering, impress your guests with this Grilled Chicken & Peach Kabobs recipe. Perfect for indoor or outdoor entertaining, it's a tasty main dish that's filled with nutrition and ready to be enjoyed in minutes.

Grilled Chicken & Peach Kabobs

Prep Time: 15 min
Cook Time: 20 min
Serves: 4

Ingredients

2 Tbsp. Dijon mustard
3 Tbsp. canola oil, divided
1/2 tsp. dried rosemary
Salt, to taste
1 pound boneless, skinless chicken breast halves, cut into 24 cubes (about 1-inch each)
1 green bell pepper, cut into 24 (1-inch) pieces
1 small red onion, cut into eight wedges, layers separated
2 cans (15.25 oz. each) Del Monte(r)Lite Peach Halves, drained and peaches cut in half
16 (10-inch) bamboo skewers

Directions

1. Whisk together mustard, 2 Tbsp. oil, rosemary and salt, if desired, in a medium bowl. Add the chicken and stir until well coated.

2. Use 2 skewers at a time to make turning food on grill pan easier. On each double-skewer, alternate 3 pieces each of chicken, bell peppers and onion and 2 pieces of peach.

3. Heat a grill pan over medium heat. Brush the grill with the remaining 1 Tbsp. oil, and cook the kabobs 4 minutes. Gently turn (if peaches stick to the grill, slide a spatula underneath to gently release). Cook 4 more minutes or until chicken is no longer pink inside.

4. Serve with cooked plain or flavored couscous, if desired.

NOTE: To boost the flavor of couscous, prepare with peach juice instead of water. Reserve juice when draining peaches into a glass measuring cup. If needed, add additional water to equal the total amount of liquid required, and prepare couscous according to package directions.

Learn More

For more recipes, visit www.facebook.com/delmonte or www.DelMonte.com.

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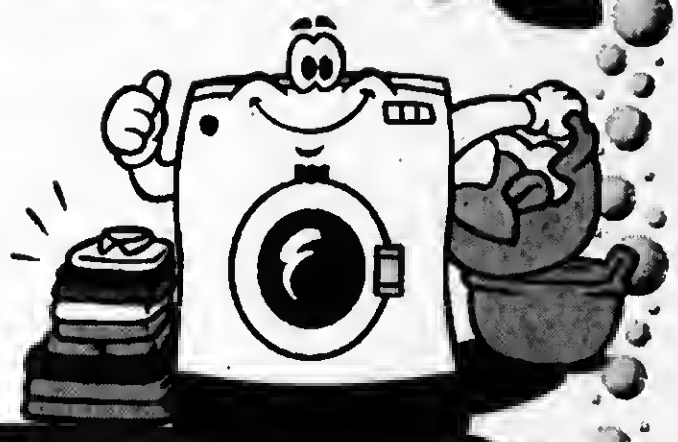

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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 40 | Number 3 | August 6, 2013

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

Evergreen Park votes down assault weapons ban

by Matt Mayer,

The Evergreen Park Council Chambers was filled with local and nearby residents at the July 15 Evergreen Park Board of Trustees meeting opposing the passage of an ordinance which would han assault weapons. Local gun supporters argued against the passage of the ordinance.

Resident Larry Merchantz said. "I'm involved in a lot of competitions and I haven't seen any need to have a ban like this in Evergreen Park. We're not like Chicago. We don't have a lot of shootings in the streets. It would only affect law abiding citizens".

Mayor James Sexton said. "I think you should be able to conceal and carry. The problem in this state is we have no one acting in conjunction to get proper legislation passed. The village's only intent was to be proactive and prevent someone from walking into a local mall or school with assault weapons, outfitted with a large magazine of ammunition," said Sexton. If the state and federal government would act, we wouldn't be talking about this, but.the state has not acted - like they haven't acted on a range of issues and this is a result of that", said Sexton. We shouldn't be in the legislation of banning guns, he added.

Village Attorney Vincent Cainkar said, "The ordinance is more of a ban on gun magazine capacity not on the weapon itself, only when it has a magazine in automatic mode".

Only one of four residents who addressed the board was in favor of the ban. She said, "Who's running this country? The NRA? Every tiny little thing about a gun they're up in arms. What kind of a country is this with everyone packing a gun? Is that going to make any of you safer?

Some of the provisions under the Concealed Weapons Law bans several sites such as government buildings, stadiums, CTA and Metra busses and trains. However the bill allows people to carry concealed weapons into restaurants where alcohol is served and more than half of the sales are derived from food. A five-year concealed weapons permit will also he needed to be issued and law enforcement agencies may object which would require the applicant to appeal to a seven member panel, which will have credentials such as FBI agents or former judges. An applicant will also be required to complete 16 hours of gun training.

A motion to approve wasn't seconded resulting in the failure of the ordinance. The ordinance follows the passage of the Concealed Carry Bill HB 183 on May 31. Rep. Brandon Phelps. Harrisburg. IL., sponsored the bill.

Hickory Hills schedules City Employee Benefits Act for evaluation

by Jan Glaz

At the Hickory Hills Council Meeting held on July 25th City Treasurer Dan Schramm asked to include on the agenda, for discussion, at the next City Council Meeting, August 8th, the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), this Act will be inserted in the City's Employee Benefits Handbook. FMLA is administered by the Wage and Hour Division (WHD). The FMLA provides a means for employees to balance their work and family responsibilities by taking unpaid leave for certain reasons. The FMLA applies to any employer in the private sector who engages in commerce, or in any industry or activity affecting commerce and who has 50 or more employees each working day during at least 20 calendar weeks in the current or preceding calendar year.

The law also covers all public agencies, state and local governments, and local education agencies,schools, whether public or private. These employers do not need to meet the "50 employee" test. "We'll get some details from the City Council Members prior to that meeting on what we want to do," said Schramm.

Newsworthy: The Flying High Gym may be moving into Hickory Hills and will be submitting a request for a business application. Due to complaints, Mayor Howley has spoken to the owner of the Hickory Palos Plaza in regards to maintaining the property and will continue to talk with them. City Clerk Catizone has received the Local Emergency Energy Plan from Com Ed and anyone interested in reviewing the plan can do so at the Clerk's Office. In reference to the 88th Avenue project, Public Works Director Larry Boettcher made note that the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) does not allow sod to be placed down after the end of June. Building Commissioner John Moirano reported that Aladdin's Palace, located at 8821 W. 87th Street, has added a kitchen to their design.

Before the meeting adjourned Alderman Brian Waight announced a new business license for Redhorse Performance to be located at 9911 S. 78th Avenue, in Hickory Hills. Waight related that they sell custom fittings and hoses for race cars.

Oak Lawn Park District Fall Registration

The Oak Lawn Park District's fall general resident registration begins on Monday, August 5 and general nonresident registration begins on Monday, August 19

A Fall Program Guide can be picked-up at any of the Park Districts' facilities and found online at www.olparks.com.

Some of this year's fall special events include Summer Beach Blizzard, Woofstock, Worldwide Day of Play, Spookview, Wine Tasting, Turkey Shoot Free-Throw Contest, and Polar Express.

Programs range from art, athletics, dance, golf, martial arts, tennis, theatre, trips, veteran services and much more. There is something for everyone! For more information, please contact 708-857-2225.

Contention dominates Oak Lawn board meeting

by Matt Mayer

Contention between Mayor Sandra Bury, her slate of trustees, and the board minority trustees continues to dominate board meetings. This occurred again at a recent Oak Lawn Board of Trustees meeting when Trustee Carol Quinlan asked Village Manager Larry Deetjen, why on July 2 he gave the Director of Business Operations, Chad Weller, a retirement and release waiver form, giving him 21 days to sign it, when he's only 53 years old, with a deadline two days before he is fully vested.

He is close to his eight years and he has been praised for his work, especially with Fall on the Green, the 4th of July Parade, Movie Night, Sunday Concerts to name a few. He was born and raised in Oak Lawn. Bury talked over Quinlan when she asked why would the Village Attorney Paul O'Grady call this a smart idea and why as a board member I have to find this out by a third party.

O'Grady and Bury continued to say this matter was for executive session. Quinlan countered again by saying, "Absolutely not - this is about transparency I asked for the executive session agenda and this is not on the agenda." O'Grady said this was not on this evenings board agenda for discussion. Quinlan countered again and said, "This is new business because I just found out about it. Being a board member and to find out a member of our management team is being asked to retire, I find offensive and would like to ask why he was given this," she added.

Quinlan also said, " I'll tell you what I heard. Two days after the election, our village manager pulled him in and said, "You're in a pickle, Chad, because you had a Heilmann-Moran sign. You should have cut out the Moran and put a Jane Quinlan sign up." O'Grady and Bury were talking over Quinlan, while Bury was pounding the gavel Bury then asked, "Carol, why didn't you call me and talk to me about it? Bury, O'Grady and Quinlan continued to talk over one another. Quinlan managed to say this could cost the village a lot of money Bury continued to pound the gavel saying this was for executive session Quinlan again countered that this was not on the executive session agenda. "We're not having another meeting in July It's the appropriate thing to do", said Quinlan.

"You can call a special meeting with two trustees, I believe," said Bury Quinlan again countered and said, " Madam President, your campaign was as you keep saying, all about transparency It is so far from that You have a select group on this board that was aware that you're trying to get rid of Chad Bury again pounded the gavel and asked that Quinlan recognize the chair "This is not appropriate for open meeting discussion", said Bury Quinlan was then gaveled out.Trustees Streit and Quinlan contend there's a double set of standards when it comes to Bury's management of the board

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 15 | August 6, 2013

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Wide Open West saves Oak Forest Money

by Jan Glaz

The Oak Forest City Council approved a trio of motions geared to technology upgrades at the City Council Meeting held on July 23rd.

Information Technology Director Tom Rieman approached the council and provided details in regard to a 3 year agreement with Wide Open West (WOW). Cable for a fiber optic connection between the Public Works building and City Hall at an annual cost of $9,000 per year. Rieman explained that the network connection currently between City Hall and Public Works administration building is no longer working at acceptable speeds

WOW offered to install a private fiber line from Public Words to City Hall and cover the install costs and provide the hardware necessary to connect the 2 buildings. WOW will also include connections to the Pump Station, Mechanic's garage, EMA building and Animal Control building. In comparison the current connection is 1mg, the new connection with WOW will be 5mg

The annual cost with WOW of $9,000 would be replacing an annual cost of $11,400 and the City would be gaining a private network between the 2 campuses and 5 times the speed it currently runs at

Alderman voted in favor of a 2 year contract with Civic Plus to redesign the City's current website Technology Director Tom Rieman reported that the City has an expired contract with American Eagle and although the website is out of date, using old codes to program, American Eagle never presented upgrades or enhancements for the website. Adding modules to the current site are out of budget range.

The City searched for a new web developer and concluded that Civic Plus is the best fit for website needs as they focus primarily on municipality websites. Their pricing is lower than the other bid received and they provide more features and applications.

Civic Plus is working on a feature to be delivered in 2013: Go Citizen Pro Mobile App, Search Upgrade, Pages & Layout Upgrades, and Facilities and Reservations. First year cost for design, training & hosting is $32,060, second year $5,120. The City Council also passed an Agreement with Proven Business Systems to lease a new Kyocera 3035 Copier/ Scanner/Printer for the Fire Department at a cost of $185.00 per month for 60 months

A Voluntary Employees Beneficiary Association (VEBA) Plan with the Oak Forest police department officers represented by the Metropolitan Alliance of Police met with approval before the meeting adjourned.

Troy Ishler, City Administrator, said, "In the last collective bargaining contract with the police department it was desirous of the union to form a VEBA which is a tax exempt benefit. They can put their sick pay, vacation, and retirement bonus into this tax differed, when they leave the City"

Orland budget supports Corporate Health

by Jan Glaz

The downturn economy has had a detrimental effect on fitness and the Village of Orland Park is making moves towards an opposite direction by working to foster new corporate memberships within the business community of Orland Park. To provide dedicated growth and maintenance of memberships at Sportsplex a part-time Membership Coordinator position met with approval on July 15th at the Board of Trustees Meeting. Growth in memberships peaked at Sportsplex before the economic downturn. In 2005 there were 5, within two years, in 2007, the number jumped to 46, its highest peak. In 2012 corporate memberships totaled 24. The Coordinator would be supervised by the Sportsplex Manager and work closely with the Sportsplex supervisors and the Recreation Services Representative who has membership retention responsibilities at Sportsplex. In part, the Membership Coordinator will be responsible for generating new business memberships, orientations/tours; implementing analytical measures to identify opportunities for increasing memberships and membership usage of the facility. Growth in this area will provide an enhanced revenue stream for the facility and an enormous benefit to the business community in Orland Park and the surrounding area. The part-time Membership Coordinator position is estimated at 1,040 hours @ $15/hour, an annual cost of $15,600, but approval at this time with a start date of early August, has a budget impact of $7,800 for 2013.

In line with the acceptance of a Membership Coordinator a motion carried to purchase new equipment for Sportsplex via the annual replacement program. The program helps to avoid the need to replace a large volume of equipment at a much higher cost at any one time. Bid process was waived in favor of purchasing equipment directly from the manufacturers. A total of $73,000.00 has been budgeted for capital purchases, such as equipment.

In regards to the Police Department a New World Systems CAD Annual Maintenance Purchase received a positive vote. In 2010, the police department purchased a new CAD and records system from New World Systems in Troy, Michigan. The annual maintenance fee for the software to include upgrades is $147,373.00 which is a 50/ 50 split between the village for the records management system and the 911 Board for the dispatch system for the period 7/1/13 to 6/30/14. The amount approved is a low quote from Sound of Music & Video System at a cost not to exceed $9,884.49.

Before the meeting adjourned the board agreed to an increase in the number of Class A liquor licenses from fifty-seven to fifty-eight for Bonefish Grill, 15537 South LaGrange Road, Orland Park

Women have the highest success rate for keeping their business within seven years!

Village of Tinley Park and Metropolitan Alliance of Police end negotiations

by Jan Glaz

Positive action was taken by Tinley Park officials to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign an agreement on behalf of the Village on July 16th at the Board of Trustees Meeting. For more than a year the Village has worked with representatives of the Metropolitan Alliance of Police (MAP) Local #192 for the 2012-2016 police contract. Negotiations revolved around wages, health insurance, and other anticipated challenges including the implementation of the Affordable Care Act. The collective bargaining agreement between the Village of Tinley Park and its patrol officers represented by the MAP Tinley Park Chapter #192 reflects less than $500,000 in costs over four years of the agreement and the annual increases of 2.0%, 2.0%, 2.5%, and 2.5% equates to a total of 9% over 4 years. The starting date of the contract is retroactive to May 1, 2012. Civil Service Testing for police officers was completed in May 2013 and two officers are expected to be hired to fill openings created by retirement. "We are very pleased that this process is now over, and we look forward to filling some of the current vacancies," Mayor Ed Zabrocki said after reviewing the agreement.

Other Meeting news: The Board of Trustees adopted an Ordinance to increase the number of Class "A" liquor licenses by two (2). The liquor licenses will be issued to the proposed restaurants, El Coco Mio Restaurant, 17344 Oak Park Avenue and Burrito Jaliseo, 7547 159th Street. Stephanie Kisler was appointed to the position of planner concurring with the recommendation of President Zabrocki and Trustee Hannon. Upon conclusion of interviewing eight of the most qualified candidates of over 100 applications received by the Village it was determined that Kisler was the most qualified. Stephanie is a 2013 graduate of Kansas State University's Master of Regional and Community Planning program and served as an intern for the City of Leawood, Kansas and the Kansas City Missouri Community Economic Development Agency.

Refresher course at Moraine Valley

Practicing nurse professionals who wish to broaden their healthcare knowledge or nurses who are returning to a healthcare setting after a prolonged absence can learn comprehensive theory and get clinical experience in Moraine Valley Community College's Current Nurse Update Refresher course.

The 10-week RN Refresher course includes theory classes on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6 to 10 p.m., at Moraine Valley and clinical work on Saturdays from 6 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at Little Company of Mary Hospital, 2800 W. 95th St., E.P.

Village View

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SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 14 | Number 15 | August 6, 2013

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Palos Heights appoints second Building Commissioner in less than one year

by Matt Mayer

Officials at a recent Palos Heights City Counsel meeting appointed Lombard resident, Christopher Kransberger, as Building Commissioner by a vote of 7-1, with Ald: Donald Bylut (1st Ward) dissenting. This appointment was made to replace Bill Hayes who resigned in May to accept a position in California.

Bylut said he voted no because the council was only presented with only one candidate to approve. "When I was on the school board and we hired a new principal, superintendent or curriculum director, we would receive two or three resumes. That would give the administrator, in this case the mayor, the ability to explain why one candidate stood out", said Bylut.

Mayor Bob Straz said Kransberger is a personable guy and has a good background. "He's a people person who was a general contractor for years prior to doing this. He knows what we want to do in the Building Department. He has worked in the Elmhurst's Community Development Department since 2006 and last position was plan examiner", said Straz.

Hayes was appointed interim commissioner last August for James Dougherty, who was terminated Aug 17 and subsequently arrested and charged with misdemeanor theft. In January the city council appointed Hayes to full time commissioner.

Other highlights: A request from Recreation Chairperson Ald. Key to approve a contract with Cedar Valley Express Blower, Inc. for $9,351.50 to supply and install ADA certified playground safety mulch for the city's four playgrounds was approved. A request from Roads and Construction Chairperson Ald. Kramarski to change the time of the Roads and Construction Committee Meeting from 8:00 p.m. to 6:00 P.M. on the second Tuesday of the month.

A contract with Millennium Construction, (the low bidder), for $61,157.60 for the 123rd and Harlem Avenue intersection and sidewalk improvement project was approved as well as a contract with Davis Concrete (the low bidder) for $53,381.45 for the miscellaneous sidewalk projects.

Worth Finance Director is now a part time independent contractor

by Matt Mayer

Officials at the July 16 Worth Board of Trustees meeting approved an ordinance amending various provisions of a title of the municipal code pertaining to the position of Finance Director/ Treasurer. The approval of this ordinance reduces the full time Finance Manager position held by Dwayne Fox for the past four years to a part-time position as an independent contractor. "The Finance Director position is not being reduced to a part-time position because of money. It's being reduced because there is no need for it to be a full time position", said Werner. 'Fox will work approximately 10 hours per week" she added.

An ordinance amending the variations provision to title 1 of the municipal code regarding the position of code enforcer was also approved by a vote of 5-1, Trustee Mary Rhein dissented. This ordinance reclassifies the position to be under the authority of the police chief. The revision was a result of the retirement of 5-year employee, Sue Murawski. A replacement for Murawski has not been officially named.

Officials discussed the code enforcer position prior to the vote. Rhein said she was opposed to transferring the primary control from the building department to the police department and Trustee Pete Kats said that the position should remain full time. The amended ordinance gives the responsibility to the police department for hiring and training the new code enforcer. The individual will also continue to work closely with the building department, said Knolmayer.

Mayor Mary Werner said the candidate that Knolmayer has in mind is currently a part-time employee of the police department and she would retain her current position as police department desk clerk if the two positions were consolidated. She would then receive full time pay and benefits.

An ordinance amending various provisions of title 1 of the municipal code pertaining to vacations was also approved. This amendment requires nonunion part-time employees to work additional hours to accrue vacation time. Prior to this amendment employees received three weeks vacation time after six months. The amendment reduces the vacation time to two weeks after one year of service.

Roche continues to not comply with village code

by Matt Mayer

Mayor Chuck Tokar at the last board of trustees meeting called Mike Roche Jr up to address the board regarding the progress he and his father have made during the past three weeks. At the last meeting, the board agreed to give Roche additional time to produce a paving contract with a completion date for his property located in the Industrial Park, 10014 S. Anderson Avenue.

Tokar said, "When you were here three weeks ago, we were discussing your instituting a contract with Irish Castle, your preferred contractor, for the paving of the entire parking lot. Roche said he didn't have a contract but was supposed to have it the next day. Tokar said if you couldn't get it in three weeks what makes you thing you'll have it tomorrow? Tokar went on to say, " The real concern is that you knew that we made it clear that your commitment was to pave the entire parking lot, even if it took two or three years, you would take a third of the property and have it paved properly according to what the engineers want, to make sure there is proper drainage. I'm really disappointed," said Tokar.

Tokar also asked about the containers on the property that hasn't been moved as yet. He asked if Roche had a listing of who owns each and every one of these containers, if they are they numbered yet, and if he knew what's inside of any of these containers. "I have a list of all of ours, but I'm getting a lot of animosity from the other businesses to open up their containers. I can't cut the locks because they don't want to show what's inside them", said Roche.

Board members were not happy that Roche didn't produce a contract. Jack Lind said he knew that Roche wouldn't have a contract and was not surprised However some of the other board members had faith in Roche and felt he would produce a contract. "Even Trustee Baden changed his mind and agreed to give you additional time", said Lind. Tokar said, "Roche is operating the rental business, which houses semis and containers, without a proper business license

Lollapalooza kickoff party

by Kelly White

FILTER Magazine's hosted a Lollapalooza kickoff party on Thursday, August 1st at the Logan Square Auditorium, 2539 North Kedzie Boulevard. The event featured live performances by indie favorites, Smith Westerns and MNDR.

The headlining Smith Westerns are an American indie rock band from Chicago, made up of band members Cullen Omori, Cameron Omori, Max Kakacek and Julien Ehrlich Their musical influences include David Bowie, T. Rex and Oasis. Their self-titled debut album was released on HoZac Records on June 5, 2009. Most of the album was recorded throughout the winter and early spring in Max Kakacek's basement. The band signed to Mom and Pop Music on March 5, 2013, and released Soft Will on June 25, 2013, following up from their 2011 LP, Dye It Blonde. The first single off the album, "Varsity," was released March 6, 2013. The album has received mostly positive reviews upon release.

The other headlining band, MNDR, is an American electronic music duo formed in New York City in 2009, consisting of Amanda Warner and Peter Wade. Warner moved from Oakland, California, to New York City in 2008 to work as a songwriter for hire. It was only after meeting Wade that she began to consider fronting a musical act herself. MNDR has opened for bands including; Yacht, Massive Attack, Deerhoof and Shiny Toy Guns The band frequently collaborates with visual artist Jamie Carreiro, who provides visual effects for MNDR's live shows.

The free event also featured DJ sets by Chris Holmes and Windy City Soul Club as well as DJ sets by "The World's End", filmmakers Simon Pegg, Nick Frost and Edgar Wright. The event also offered free flowing PBR and New Amsterdam spirits, plus complimentary shaves in the Shave Lounge presented by New Amsterdam spirits.

Fender is offered music fans an incredible opportunity during the Lollapalooza kickoff party by raffling off a Fender Blacktop Stratocaster Guitar. The event also offered free flowing PBR and New Amsterdam spirits, plus complimentary shaves in the Shave Lounge presented by New Amsterdam spirits.

Village View

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B-MAC EDITION

Volume 7 | Number 15 | August 6, 2013

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Alsip Summer Event Derailed

by Jan Glaz

A request for approval for Sudden Impact Customs to hold a car/sound show event on Saturday, July 21, 2013 at 12650 S. Kroll Drive, from noon to 5:00pm, appeared on the agenda at the July 1st Village of Alsip Board of Trustees Meeting; that request led to a discussion minus a motion to approve. At the next regular board meeting held on July 15th, Michael Alhright, owner of Sudden Impact Customs, attended the meeting but left abruptly before presenting additional information to support holding the event. When contacted, Michael Albright relayed that he had asked Trustee Kevin Michaels, "Is there any point for me to stand up here today," the answer being no upset him and he fled the scene. Albright said that Sudden Impact Customs has held the car/sound event since 2008 once or twice a year but unfortunately, due to an oversight, the last event was held without a permit. This year when Albright applied for a permit he worked with the police department and the trustees, and he composed a letter to the building commissioner There's an Ordinance governing the amount of decibels allowed. Alhright said Trustee Michaels suggested the sound event could be set inside a closed garage but because the cars entered in the event are turned on there would not be enough ventilation

Alhright is disappointed as the car/sound show is a promotional event for his business, last year it attracted over 100 people into Alsip many from Wisconsin and Michigan, and some stayed at the hotels, frequented restaurants and businesses. He also stated that Sudden Impact Customs being a retail business he pays a tax of 8.75% on each sale.

A Special Use Permit was suggested as an alternative during the meeting, but not initiated. Mayor Kitching remarked on the issue towards the end of the meeting, "If somebody comes to us and guarantees us they're going to disturb the peace; what do you think we're going to do?"

Newsworthy non-approval: After a discussion between Mayor Kitching and Trustees a vote failed 3 to 2 for an Ordinance Amending the Number of Certain Liquor Licenses. Kitching said that the purpose of the ordinance is that it is in the Village's plan to make an entertainment and restaurant area for the Pulaski Avenue corridor. Trustee Richard Dalzell was concerned that the Village was making accommodations by bringing additional businesses to town simply for the gambling license. Trustee Ryan expressed concern that liquor licenses were given out too easily, which prompted a response from the Mayor "The only thing I would give a liquor license for is a restaurant, period, on Pulaski... we don't need any more package liquor," said Kitching. "we can't keep turning down revenue streams."

The vote. Trustee Shapiro, yes. McGreal, no. Dalzell, no. Ryan, no; Michaels, yes

Crestwood Amends Emergency Preparedness Plan

by Jan Glaz

An Amendment to the Crestwood Emergency Management Agency's Emergency Preparedness Plan dated June 1st, 2013 was accepted on July 19th at the Village of Crestwood Board Meeting. Crestwood is one of over 128 municipalities and 30 townships within Cook County and as the second largest county in the United States they require a committed and dedicated department devoted to homeland security and emergency management. It has been reported by Cook County that there are a variety of natural threats, including tornadoes, floods and blizzards and various incidents continue to indicate a threat picture which identifies Chicago and the Urban Area as a potential target for those who wish harm. These factors necessitate a thorough and detailed emergency preparedness strategy.

The Village of Crestwood is considering approving and passing an Ordinance Adding Chapter 137 to the Crestwood Municipal Code Banning the Sale or Possession of Assault Weapons within the Village of Crestwood. The consideration is in review and will be up for vote at a subsequent meeting. A motion carried to allow passing of an Ordinance Allowing Policemen and Fireman to reside Outside the Village of Crestwood and a Consideration of the Crestwood Police Association Annual Fundraiser, raffle, on August 25th met with approval; officials agreed to waive the Raffle License Application bond fee.

Mayor Louis Presta announced a Crestwood wide garage sale August 16th and 17th. Although a permit is required, there's no charge for the permit. For future note, Presta said recycling will begin in Crestwood next year, using one bin for all items.

The following appointments met with approval before the meeting adjourned. For Part-Time Police Officer: James R. Stepien; Lee R. West; Matt J. McGeever; Nickolas C. Kleopa; Kristie L. Barman; and Eric Chmura. The Crestwood Fire Department position of Probationary Volunteer Firefighter is appointed to Nicholas Ward

Midlothian receives $10,000 donation

by Jan Glaz

On July 24th, due to a $10,000.00 donation from Hillyer Enterprise, Mayor Sharon Rybak adjusted her motion to Approve to pay a 20% Match for Regional Federal Emergeney Management Agency (FEMA) Grant for radios and command terminals in the amount of $18,802.00, to a motion to pay the reduced amount of $8,802.00. The Board of Trustees then agreed to the amount $8,802.00. "We are currently working with CNB Bank also to try and secure other funding to eover the eost of the $8,002.00," added the Mayor.

Trustee L'Heureux reported that Midlothian will be hosting National Night Out in the Village Green on August 6th from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m... National Night Out is America's night against crime. The Night Out is a unique crime/drug prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW) that involves citizens, the Midlothian Police and Fire Department, civic groups, businesses, neighborhood organizations and local village officials. The event generates support and participation in anticrime programs and sends a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

During the public comments portion of the meeting the Mayor received an inquiry from a resident on when the Village would purchase a pump and the appropriation of the funds. Rybak answered, "We are still working on the budget, when I first took office there was no budget or appropriations that's what we're doing here tonight and as soon as we have extra funding we'll go ahead and issue the fund." A Public Hearing preceded the Board of Trustees Meeting, after adjourning the Publie Hearing and before the Board of Trustees Meeting adjourned, a motion for an Appropriations Ordinance met with approval. In addition an Ordinance for the Cicero Avenue Tax Incentive Financing (TIF) and a Prevailing Wage Resolution received a positive vote

Read Out and About!

Midlothian's Park recognition day

At the Midlothian Park District's Fifteenth Annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony, Gym Supervisor Dave Badagliacco received the 2013 Employee of the Year Award from the Midlothian Park District Board of Commissioners. Each year the Board chooses an employee who has impacted the overall operation of the park district during the past year. This year the Board determined that Dave's customer service deserved to be recognized.

Dave was nominated eight times during the past year by people who rented Raday Lodge or the Don Preston Recreation Center. Each renter called to say that Dave was helpful and attentive during their party. "It is rare that people take time to call after a party to compliment the staff. The fact that eight customers took the time to call and mention Dave's work certainly deserves recognition." said Board President Mike Kohlstedt.

Dave began working for the Midlothian Park District in 2009. He lives in Midlothian with his parents and his brother Joe, who also works for the park district as a Gym Supervisor. Dave is a graduate of Bremen High School and South Suburban College where he majored in law enforcement.

He plans to take the test for the Midlothian Police Department and hopes to be hired there. We wish him well in that endeavor and we are glad to know that he will continue his commitment to service in Midlothian.

Chapter of The National Society Daughter of the American Revolution installed 2013 to 2015 new officers

At a recent meeting, the Swallow Cliff Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution installed its new slate of officers for the 2013-2015 term.

They are:Eles Miller of Orland Park as Regent. Gale Shafer of Tinley Park as Vice Regent, Omega Riley-Cole of Oak Forest as Chaplain. Lisa Smith of Oak Lawn as Recording Secretary. Barbara Lamb of Palos Hills as Corresponding Secretary, Paula Fitzgerald of Orland Park as Treasurer. Gloria Flathom of Oak Lawn as Registrar, Marilyn Earnest of Oak Forest as Historian, and Jane Fulghum of Glenwood as Librarian.The NSDAR ia a non-prufit, non-political organization dedicated to preserving American history, securing America's future through hetter educatiun, and promoting patriutism. Membership in the DAR is a unique opportunity to honor one's lineage and heritage as a descendant of a patriot of the American Revolution.

Announcement for Chicago Ridge Public Library

The Chicagu Ridge Public Library, 10400 S. Oxford, is hosting "You Can Brew It" on Monday, August 19th at 7:00 p.m. Scutt Pointuu, award winning hrewer, will cover: the history of hume brewing, the styles of beer you can hrew as well as the equipment, ingredients and basic steps of the brewing process. No alcohol present, and must be 21 or over to attend. Call the library at 423-7753 to register for this free program.

The Chicago Ridge Public Library, 10400 S. Oxford, is hosting "Harvest to Holiday Gardening. Get the most of your Garden" on Tuesday, August 13th at 7:00 p.m. Think you're done gardening on Labor Day? The Prairie Godmother team will teach us how tu keep our crops producing throughout the fall. Join us for this free program; call the library at 423-7753 with any questions.

Rep. Rita tells the Deadline to Apply for Foreclosure Assistance Nearing

South Suburban Lawmaker Reminds Residents to Act by Sept. 30 to Keep Their Homes

State Rep. Bob Rita, D-Blue Island, is urging local residents to take advantage of state resources over the next two months if they're facing losing their homes to foreclosure.

Sept. 30 is the deadline to apply for temporary financial assistance under the Illinois Hardest Hit program, which has helped thousands of homeowners around the state. The federally funded program offers free services to homeuwners struggling with unemployment or significant underemployment by allowing them to stay in their home while they work to get back on their feet financially.

Eligible homeowners can receive either a onetime payment of all owed mortgage payments and fees penaltics, or help with paying 100 percent of monthly mortgage payments for up to 18 months.

Rep. Rita encourages anyone in need to seek out help immediately because the federal funding is running short and there is no guarantee everyone will be served.

"As I drive around my district, I see the impact of foreclusures and how much they hurt families, neighborhoods and local businesses," Rita said. "It's important that if you're facing challenges in keeping your home, you reach out and take advantage of the help available before it's too-late. We'll here to help you get through the tough times."

Rita encourages those interested to visit https://www.illinoisbardesthit.org/ or contact his office at 708-396-2822 for more information.

Ann Arbor is a must to see this summer

by Annette Dixon

Before heading out to register for the University of Michigan, a little tour guide through the town of Ann Arbor may be of service to you.

If you have a mubile device, you may have already checked for information for your night's stay or places to eat but I assure yuu, I have some first hand knowledge about this town.

If you don't read it bear in this article, contact Dennis Doyle. Executive V.P. for Marketing and Sales or anyone from the Ann Arbor Area Convention and Visitors Bureau. They can help you find the best Antique Markets, galleries, shops, businesses, anything you can't find in this article.

My stay at the Towne Place Suites, Marriott in Ann Arbor South, was like a Holiday Inn Express, which was just in front of the building. They both have a decent continental breakfast, included in the price.

When you want to grab a good bite, try an authentic Turkish Cafe at 1703 Plymouth Rd., it's worth the effort. Owned and operated by mother and daughter. It is quaint, clean, and unique. The mother is the chef and the daughter loves serving her meals to please the customers. Look for the slate with the daily specials hanging on the wall.

Another good choice is Conor O'Neill's Traditional Irish Pub. Tom Murry is the owner and they have some delicious food other than pub food.

Since you may he spending several days, include in your itinerary more restaurants. Ann Arbor is noted for their restaurants as you will see up and down main street. With fresh vegetables and fruit coming from the local farmers, the chefs are making use of their services.

Frita Batidos is open morning until night and usually have a line waiting because they have a hig carry out business with a carry out winduw facing the street. This restaurant is a must hecause this place was recommended tu me by a shup owner, while I was shupping downtown Ann Arbor. They have a mini-har and happy hour Sunday through Thursday from 4:00 until 6:00, but they can serve a mean drink any time during the day.

Again I selected a woman owned business who also is the chef. Her food is so good, she has been advised to franchise her restaurant or have some more start ups, even in Ann Arbor. My favorite food is Latino, so she has a combination of flavors on her food that gives it a mixed aroma and taste. For example they serve crisped Plantains and everything is home made. Cilantro Lime Salsa. Avocado spread that doesn't taste like only Avocados, Conch Fritters that taste different then the ones down south, aromatic pulled Pork with tropical coleslaw, sweet chile mayo, brioche. Frita Batidos has vegetarian, vegan, no dairy, no gluten, no garlic if desire. Best of all, for all of this, they give a good quantity of food, it tastes fresh, the price is right and the service was good.

Another fun thing to do is to include Mark's Carts. Mark Hodesh, President founder of Mark's Carts has the right idea. Not only did they fill in empty space but gave people the opportunity to promote their business hy heing a vendor first to see who loves their food.

Restaurants are important to Ann Arbor as you may know or will experience. Ann Arbor is an elegant and upper income community, for it was the only city in the state that wasn't hit hard during the recession of 2008. Businesses have a camaraderic with one another. They join forces by using each other's property that is not in use, that's togetherness.

Looking for that elegant, romantic dinner, there are several restaurants for this, but I like Vinology (not a romantic name but uh the food and wine is so good. The Jonna family began investing in fine wine as early as 1970 in Michigan. John Jonna, along with E. Jonna and John Lossia, was the founder of Merchant of Vino. This beame one of the premier gourmet wine and food chains in the U.S. It was sold to Whole Foods Market in 1997. Jonna then Co-founded Merchants of Wine and kept an interest in the business until 2006. Currently he and his daughter, Kristin, own two restaurants and wine bars, Vinology in Ann Arbor and Vinotecca in Royal Oak., MI.Vinology is an integral part of the mix of shops and restaurants on Main Street in Ann Arbor. Located in a refurbished historic building, it includes a wine bar and adjacent dining area of street level. Downstairs is wine shop and Cellar Room for an intimate dining experience.

There is also the Buhhlc Room with 400 hand blown glass halls created by Furnace Hut Class in Dearborn, hanging from the ceiling. With their 100 wines by the hottle and 50 by the glass, they arc accustomed to people who know a lot about wine and others whu know little. A tasting is just the thing to show you what they have and set you on the right course.

Vinoloy has a class act chef. Jim Leonardo, that will come out to speak with you, if not too busy. Their food is served elegantly and the ambiance is speetacular, you will appreciate this reference and thank me for it later.

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We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

Justice 2013 Emergency Shelter

by Jan Glaz

Trustee Sue Small announced at the Village of Justice President and Board of Trustees Meeting held on July 22nd that on Wednesday July 24th the Village would meet to plan emergency shelter in accordance with the Village of Justice Emergency Preparedness Plan. It is reported that Cook County is the second largest county in the United States and they require a committed and dedicated department devoted to homeland security and emergency management. Justice is one of over 128 municipalities and 30 townships within Cook County that are involved in devising a preparedness plan for security and emergency purposes.

Trustee Small updated the technology data she presented at a previous meeting by declaring that the building department and officials have their iPhone's up and working and that a new e-mail system is scheduled to take effect on July 25th.-Sue Small said the Village is currently pricing new computers for the building department and the Village Administration Building, they will be running on the same type of systems, with the same software and with the addition of network capabilities, to enhance communication and reduce redundancy.

Two motions were introduced and approved by the board: Trustee Small introduced a motion to accept quotes from Patten Power Systems to perform scheduled maintenance to the Generator in the Village Administration Building in the amount of $1738.00 per year and another proposal for scheduled maintenance to the Child Advocacy Center building generator at a cost of $1,643.00 per year. Trustee Melanie Kuban followed with a motion to authorize the hire of up to six part-time police officers on an on-need basis.

Before adjournment, Trustee Henry Oszakiewski brought forth motions in regards to new business licenses. The board unanimously agreed to grant license to Adele's, doing business at 8507 S. 88th Avenue, a general merchandise seller, in contingent on passing all inspections and being in compliance with all codes and ordinances. Also granted, a home occupation license for Chi-Town Restoration, at 7841 S. Cronin Avenue

Rep. Rita Supports Illinois' New Rocky Clark Law

South Suburban Lawmaker Welcomes Governor tu Blue Island for Signing of Important Bill

State Rep. Bob Rita, D-Blue Island, on Sunday joined Gov. Quinn and other officials to stand up for Rocky Clark.

Rita welcomed the governor to Blue Island for the official bill signing of Senate Bill 2178, which requires schools to catastrophic insurance coverage for its student athletes. The bill, now known as the "Rocky Clark Law," was inspired by the story of Rasul "Rocky" Clark, who was paralyzed on the high school football field in 2000. He died last year at age 27.

Under the new law, the minimum insurance policy for a school will provide $3 million in aggregate benefits or five years of coverage, whichever comes first, for injuries that result in medical expenses of more than $50,000. All schools will have this insurance for the first time, except for those who already require athletes to have private insurance.

The Illinois High School Association, the governing body for high school sports in Illinois, already offers this coverage for state tournaments. It is estimated to cost schools less than $5 per athlete to provide this coverage for the entire season.

Rita was a cosponsor of the bill and credited Sen. Napoleon Harris and Rep. Will Davis for their leadership in it reaching the governor's desk.

"We go to Springfield to address real problems in our state, and this was one we had let go for too long," Rita said. "I was proud to stand with Sen. Harris, Rep. Davis and my colleagues who supported the Rocky Clark Law.

We can hope these tragic events do not happen again on our school athletic fields and gyms, but we can also rest assured that when they do, those injured will have the protection they need."

State Rep. Bob Rita, D-Blue Island can be contacted by email RobertBobRita@aol.com or call 708-396-2822.

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Representative
Robert "Bob" Rita

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Out and About With Kelly White

Alsip

Alsip Park District will be hosting their Farmers Market every Tuesday from now through October 8th from 3:00 p.m. until 7:00p.m. at the Apollo Recreation Center Parking Lot, 12521 South Kostner Avenue, with live bands on August 6th and September 10th. Come out and enjoy the fresh produce, homemade items, local vendors, prepared foods, children's activities and more!

VFW Memorial Post 450, 11800 S. Cicero Ave., is asking for help to complete the Veterans Plaza and Path of Honor located at 11801 S. Pulaski Road. Veterans, relative and friends and business are encouraged to participate. Purchasing a memorial brick is a way to remember all veterans, past and present. Bricks can be purchased for $100 apiece. For more information, please call: 708-388-2387.

Blue Island

TGIF Picnics and Produce Market will be held on Fridays through August 8th, located at Central Park, Northeast Corner of York Street and Western Avenue in historic Uptown Blue Island are presented by the city of Blue Island, MetroSouth Medical Center, Blue Island Public Library, and Blue Island residents. TGIF Picnic Time: food: 11:00 a.m. - 2:00p.m./family entertainment 11:00a.m. - noon/music noon-2:00p.m.

Crestwood

Watch our own Thunderbolts take on the Frontier Grays and support the Blue Island/Crestwood Rotary on August 8th at 7:05 p.m., call Lynn at 708-239-1323 ext. 21 for more information. Tickets are $10 at Thunderbolts Stadium, 14011 S. Kenton Avenue.

Midlothian

Durbin's in Midlothian, 14753 S. Cicero Avenue, is offering a Country Night Out every Tuesday night starting at 9:00 p.m. featuring free line dancing lessons.

The Midlothian Park District holds monthly Senior Luncheons at Raday Lodge. These luncheons are open to the public and tickets can be purchased at the Don Preston Recreation Center, 14500 S. Kostner or Village Hall, 14801 Pulaski. Tickets are $7.00 each. Doors open at 9:30 a.m. and lunch is served promptly at 11:00 a.m. The next luncheon will be held on August 9th with a meal provided by Brown's Chicken.

Oak Forest

The Oak Forest Farmers Market is held every Tuesday through October 8th 3:00 p.m. at the Central Park Building.

The Oak Forest Community Center, 15501 S. Kilpatrick Avenue, is available for use by families and organizations during summer parties or activities. Requests to rent this facility are welcome and will be accommodated on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information or to rent the facility, please contact Jim Richmond at 708-687-4050, ext. 1005.

Tinley Park

Visit the Farmers Market from 7 a.m. to noon Saturdays from June through October for the best selection of fresh fruits, vegetables, flowers and much more. It is held in downtown Zabrocki Plaza, 17375 Oak Park Avenue.

Music in the Plaza featuring Lucky Town will take place August 10th from 7:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. at Downtown Tinley. Come and enjoy this country band. Bring your lawn chairs and blanket and enjoy the great music. Refreshments will be available for sale. Come early at 6:30 pm for line-dancing lessons by Step-Up Dance Academy.

Get moving this summer and learn some fun and energizing dances at the Tinley Park Library, 7851 Timber Drive, by learning the Swing Dance on August 14th from 7:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. Dance partners are welcome but not required. Wear hard or leather-soled shoes for dancing.

Worth

At the Worth Farmers and Flea Market, located at 110th and Depot Street, residents can find many treasures including; produce, baked goods, household items and more! The next Community Market is scheduled for Sunday, July 21st from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

The Terrace Center, 11500 Beliot Ave., has an indoor playground featuring slides, a climbing wall, tree house and more for children who can walk through 4 years old. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Fee is $1 for residents, $2 for nonresidents. For more information call 708-448-7080.

The Village of Worth will be hosting its annual Worth Days this summer Thursday, August 22nd through Sunday, August 25th, with an entrance fee of $3 for Worth residents and $5 for nonresidents. Children ages 16 and under and senior citizens ages 60 and older are free.

Burbank

Having a summer party? The Burbank Park District offers gazebo rentals available for your next big get together. With a two-hour minimum, they are located at: Stevenson Park, 85th and State Road, Harr Park, 83rd and Laramie, Nottingham Park, 7707 S. McVicker Avenue and Owens Park, 78th and LeClaire. You can reserve a date by going to www.burbankparkdistrict.org and logging in to the on-line registration form. You may also contact Julie Court at 708-599-2070 for more information.

Justice

A flea market will be held at the Justice Community Center, 7256 Skyline Drive, on Saturday, August 24th from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Evergreen Park

A crochet club for teens and adults will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesdays through August 13th at the Evergreen Park Library, 9400 S. Troy Avenue. Beginners should bring an H/8 crochet hook and yarn will be provided. Non-beginners should bring a current project. Registration is required.

Evergreen Park Recreation Department is sponsoring Square Dance plus lessons and workshops this summer. The classes are hosted by Swing'n.Sugar Squares Square Dance Club and the workshop dances for experienced dancers will be held from 7:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. on Thursday evenings through August 22nd, except July 24th, at the Evergreen Park Community Center, 3450 W. 97th Street. There is a $5 fee per person.

Hickory Hills

The Hickory Hills Park District, is hosting a pizza bags tournament and social for adults ages 50 and older on Friday, August 2nd from 11:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. at the Krueger Park Gym, 9100 S. 88th Avenue. There is a $6 fee per resident and a $7 fee per nonresident. Fee includes coffee, soda, pizza and prizes. Lunch will be served at noon and a noncompetitive tournament will begin after lunch.

Children can get The Museum Adventure Pass from the Green Hills Public Library, 8611 W. 103rd Street. This pass allows free entry into many museums in the area including: Brookfield Zoo, Chicago Botanic Garden, Oak Lawn Children's Museum and more! For more information visit the library.

Oak Lawn

A golf outing to benefit the football and baseball teams at Richards High School will be held on Saturday, August 24th at Stony Creek Golf Course, 5850 W 103rd Street. Registration begins at 11:00 a.m. and plays get underway with a shotgun start at noon. The overall cost of the event is $100 for golf, registration gift, snack and dinner party.

The Oak Lawn Park District offers duplicate bridge every Monday at 11:30 a.m. at the Oak View Center, 4625 W. 110th Street. Cost is $7 per person and includes a light lunch. All ages are welcome. For more information call 708-857-2200.

Oak Lawn Public Library, located at 9427 S. Raymond, sponsors three adult writers groups that meet year-round. A general interest group meets from 10:00 a.m to noon on the second and fourth Saturday of each month. Writers interested in screen-writing meet from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Saturday of each month. Budding children's authors meet from 10:00 a.m. to noon on the third Thursday of each month. Meetings include readings, critiques and writing exercise. New members are welcome anytime. No registration is required.

The annual Fall on the Green Festival is held the weekend after Labor Day. This family friendly event has everything you look for in a festival - great food, wonderful entertainment, games, and vendors of all types. This event takes place on the Village Green located at 95th Street and Cook Avenue. There is no charge for admission, parking or rides.

Orland Park

The Orland Park Civic Center Farmers Market, 14750 Ravinia Ave., offers over 30 vendors offer a variety of fresh produce, flowers, plants, pasta, bakery items, gourmet spices, jewelry, home and garden items, purses, beauty products, and more. Barbecue lunches sponsored by local charities are available for purchase through August 9. For more information, please call 708-403-6145.

Chicago Ridge

The Our Lady of the Ridge Knights of Columbus chapter will present its summer flea market the second Sunday of every month from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the church, 108th Street and Ridgeland Ave. in Chicago Ridge. Markets will be held on July 13th, August 10th, September 14th and October 12th. The event will feature more than 35 vendors.

Palos Hills

Family Movie Time featuring the movie, "Up" will take place at the Green Hills Public Library, 8611 West 103rd Street, on Friday, August 16th at 4:00 p.m. All attendees receive popcorn and lemonade. Early registration is required

Come out to stargaze at Moraine Valley Community Center as it hosts its series of telescope open viewing nights this summer. All open viewings are held at the telescope dome on the G. Jack Bradley Observation Deck, located on the west side of the college's Nature Study Area, off Kean Avenue near 107th Street. Observers can park in the lots east of Building P or in the west section of the Building D parking lot. Dates and times for this season's open viewings include the following Fridays: August 16th, at 8:15 p.m., September 13th at 7:15 p.m. and October 11th at 6:30 p.m.

Palos Hills residents 55 years and older meet from noon until 2 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at the Palos Hills Community Center, 8455 W. 103rd Street. Tickets for events must be purchased one week in advance. Entertainment includes musicians, singers, luncheons, movies and plays and bingo.

Palos Park

Come join the Palos Hills Park District for a Bike Hike on Saturday, August 24th from 9:00 a.m. until noon starting at the Palos Park Metra Station. Grab your bike, the family and friends for a leisurely ride on dedicated paths. The Bike Hike begins and ends at the Palos Park Metra Station. A grilled lunch with refreshments will be provided. There is a $5 fee per person and a $12.50 fee for three or more household members.

The Autumn in the Park Festival is being expanded to include Friday night musical entertainment, food and spirits. Saturday features amateur rib competition and sanctioned chili competitions as well as numerous activities and music for the whole family. By popular demand the fest has brought back the band Libido Funk Circus to perform beginning at 7:00 p. m. Save the dates for Friday evening, September 20th and Saturday, September 21st for the 2013 Autumn In The Park Festival.

Palos Heights

Every Wednesday through October 9th, the city of Palos Heights will be hosting a Farmers Market at 13317 S. Harlem Avenue from 7:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Lake Katherine, 7402 Lake Katherine Drive, is offering Stargazing on Saturday, August 17th at 8:00 p.m. This is a free event and children are welcomed. No preregistration required. Please meet near the telescope located in the Anniversary Garden

Love goes a long way

By Kelly White

The Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Mother of Christ have been extending compassion and care to others for almost a century. The congregation was founded in Nigeria by Archbishop Charles Heerey, C.S.Sp in 1937. Inspired by his humility, outstanding love of God and filial devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the sisters strive to imitate Christ in the humble and compassionate service to the poor, the sick and the less privileged of the society. They dedicate themselves to the training of women and children, teaching, pastoral and social work.

Comprised of single Catholic women ages 18 through 35, who seek a life of prayer humble and compassionate service and are willing to leave one's own country for mission, they are found in eleven countries around the world, with nine houses in North America, including: Nigeria, Kenya, Ghana, Chad, Italy, England, Germany, Canada, Antigua, Montserrat and throughout the United States.

"I am very happy," Sister Mariana reported from the Freeport, Illinois house. Working with The Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Mother of Christ for many years, Sister Mariana has never regretted her decision to join the compassionate congregation.

The formation program includes two years of being a postulant, a candidate for religious service, and two years of novitiate, followed by one year of a school or course of study for Roman Catholic seminarians, after the first profession of vows are taken.

The Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Mother of Christ's Mission Statement shows honor and humility to the family: "We, the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Mother of Christ are a community of women religious who draw strength from our closeness to Jesus and Mary. Called to imitate Christ in the humble and loving service of all people, we strive to empower women and children, uplift family values and respond to the missionary call of the Church".

Sister Mariana strives on the congregations' dedication to others, compassion and the heart and soul which unites all members together.

All professed members of the congregation wear the habit both indoors and outdoors as a symbol of their consecration. They wear a midway-length habit, a veil, a fifteen-decade Rosary, a crucifix, and a ring received at perpetual profession of vows. Their habit is blue with a white collar; however, white may be worn in summer or in countries with only warm weather.

The congregation nourishes our consecration through constant encounter with God and through community praise and intercession. Their community is built up around the liturgy, especially the Eucharist, celebrated and adored, and the Rosary is prayed together every day by members of each community.

The The Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Mother of Christ was founded at a time when only the boys enjoyed the privilege of attending schools in Nigeria. They were converted to Christianity but for marriage, they were obliged to marry unchristian and uneducated girls and hence faced the consequences, one of which was syncretism.

The congregation's founder, Archbishop Charles Heerey, C.S.Sp, realized the progress he had made in Nigeria cannot be either sustained or enriched without the elevation of womanhood. Christianity cannot be posited on a sandy foundation, unless it has its root firmly encrusted in a Christian home, and here can be no real and proper Christian home without a Christian mother. This was the motive behind The Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Mother of Christ foundation, to uplift the status of women, which was then very low, prepare girls for marriage and other sacraments, educate children and assist married couples to build good Christian families.

Archbishop Heerey had an overwhelming concern for the plight of the underprivileged, especially women and children. As a missionary, himself, he instilled in our foundation members the same missionary spirit that brought him to Nigeria from Ireland. His work and charisma now continue in us, his spiritual daughters. While the sisters' charisma remains compassion and uplifts women and children, our spirit is humility in imitation of Mary.

Archbishop Heerey was born November 29, 1890, in County Cavan, Ireland, in the diocese of Kilmore. In 1922, he was appointed to the Vicariate of Southern Nigeria. He arrived in Calabar and was appointed a curate in Calabar Township where he worked zealously for two years. He was then posted to Saint Paul's Seminary in Igbariam where he taught Philosophy. On February 27, 1927, he was appointed co-adjustor to Bishop Shanahan. In May 27, 1927 he was consecrated a Bishop. He succeeded Bishop Shanahan as Vicar Apostolic of Onitsha on May 21, 1931.

The Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Mother of God's congregation was a child of the inspiration he had when he went on a pilgrimage to Lourdes in the early 1930's. As he was praying, he was thinking of the needs of the women of Nigeria. He got an inspiration. "Found a Congregation of indigenous women." He also founded the Saint Peter Claver Brothers, the All Hallows' Junior Seminary at Onitsha and the Bigard Memorial Senior Seminary at Enugu. He established 2,761 primary schools, 36 teacher-training colleges and 108 high schools. Today, the sisterhood consists of caring for the sick and the elderly in nursing homes and giving pastoral care as chaplain to the patients and staff of the District Hospital South Shields. They are also involved in the Process of Evangelization in the diocese and volunteering some days in the week to help the refugees and the nearby school children by providing social and pastoral care for them.

The Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Mother of God dedicate themselves to the training of women and girls in many dimensions, especially for marriage and the sacraments; special care of widows, which includes helping them to be self-reliant, young single mothers and orphans, the aged, derelicts, especially the aged and disabled and HIV/Aids children, special care of the sick in hospitals, dispensaries, maternities, education of children and the youths at nursery, primary, secondary and tertiary levels, and any other work of charity in keeping with the spirit of our foundation like pastoral works, working as co-formatters in seminaries, caring for immigrants/refugees, making ecclesiastical vestments and cloths and the baking of altar bread.

The congregation seeks to cultivate in the lives of others, a sympathetic personal love and concern for the people with whom they work with, along with the understanding and sympathy characteristics of the Immaculate Heart of Mary who opens her heart to all.

Take the right road to all services

Obtain State of Illinois Temporary Disability Parking Placards at Orland Township

Residents in need of a temporary Illinois disability parking placard may pick up required paperwork at Orland Township, 14807 S. Ravinia Avenue, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, and from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m on Tuesday.

The paperwork must be completed and signed by a physician and returned to Orland Township. The temporary placards are valid for a length of time indicated by the authorizing doctor (not exceeding 90 days). Placards may only be used in a vehicle in which the authorized holder of the parking placard is either the driver or a passenger.

When recovering from a medical issue, venturing outdoors is not always the easiest task. Temporary disability parking placards can make the experience easier and Orland Township is happy to help its residents adjust during a recovery period.

VFW, American Legion, Elks, Kiwanis, Moose Lodges, advertise for Labor Day and Veterans Day, call Linda at 708-425-1910.

Medicare for Workers Over 65

(NAPSA)-Turning 65 has traditionally been associated with the start of a person's retirement and, accordingly, his or her Medicare coverage. But if you are one of the 10,000 baby boomers turning 65 every day and you choose to work past the traditional retirement age, it's important that you understand how this choice impacts your Medicare coverage.

"Medicare enrollment can be confusing, especially if you work past age 65 and have employer-sponsored health coverage," says Tom Paul, chief consumer officer, UnitedHealthcare. "Regardless of when you plan to retire, it's im_portant to learn about Medicare as you approach your 65th birthday so you have time to consider your options and can feel confident about the choices you make."

Keep these things in mind:

Timing Matters: Pay attention to your Initial Enrollment Period (IEP). The IEP is a seven-month period that includes the three months before your 65th birthday, the month of your birthday, and the three months after your birthday. You should understand how your enrollment choices during the IEP could impact your health care coverage both now and in the future. Keep in mind that many people choose to enroll in Medicare Part A (for hospital care) when they turn 65 even if they have employer coverage. For most people, Part A is available for no monthly premium and can be combined with some employer-sponsored health plans.

Penalties and Gaps Are Possible: If you don't sign up for Medicare coverage during your IEP, you could experience a gap in coverage later and could also incur penalties on your premiums for Medicare Part B (doctor's visits) and Part D (prescription medications). To avoid these scenarios, be proactive in contacting Medicare to notify them of your delayed enrollment and make sure you understand the rules and requirements for future enrollment.

HR Can Help: Your em_ploy_er's HR or benefits coordinator can help you understand your current health coverage and when you should enroll in Medicare. Some key questions to ask:

*Should I enroll in Original Medicare while I continue to re_ceive employer-sponsored benefits? It's not always an either-or situation. Sometimes people can combine their employer-sponsored coverage with Medicare benefits.

*Does my employer-sponsored plan offer prescription drug benefits that qualify as "creditable coverage"? If the answer is yes, then you won't need to enroll in Medicare Part D as long as you have your employer-sponsored coverage.

*When I am ready to retire, what steps will I need to take to fully transition to Medicare coverage or retiree benefits through my employer? Be sure to plan well in advance as it can take several months for your Medicare enrollment to be processed, meaning you could face a lapse in coverage if you wait until the last minute.

If you would like further information on Medicare, the IEP and how Medicare differs from em_ployer-sponsored health coverage, you can call 1-800-MEDICARE (TTY: 1-877-486-2048), 24 hours a day, seven days a week, or visit these websites: www.Medicare.gov and www.MedicareMadeClear.com.

It's important to learn about Medicare to know your options.

Residing 101: What To Consider, Start To Finish

(NAPSA)-Deciding to re-side your home isn't a small undertaking but it doesn't have to be intimidating. You need a keen eye, some research and a game plan. Here are hints that can help:

Evaluating Your Home

Start by inspecting your current siding both from the curb and up close. Look for:

*Sagging
*Cracking
*Blistering
*Buckling or dents
*Fading
*Missing pieces
*Insect damage or infestation
*Rot
*Water stains

If you find two or more of those things, it's time to re-side.

Determining The Material

There are several materials you can consider: fiber cement, masonry, vinyl, wood-based and cedar.

To find which makes the most sense for your home, see what others in the neighborhood have and browse house magazines. Also, consider your climate and consult your insurance agent: some companies offer discounts on durable, noncombustible fiber cement siding and masonry.

Next, consider how siding materials can enhance curb appeal. Remember, vinyl needs regular cleaning and washing, and wood needs to be repainted every few years. Fiber cement siding needs little maintenance and can save a lot in repairs later. What's more, fiber cement siding from James Hardie is uniquely formulated for wet, freezing conditions and hot, humid conditions so you can match your siding to the weather where you live. Durability and sustainability are also important; the U.S. Green Building Council recognizes fiber cement siding in both areas

Finding A Contractor

The next step is finding and hiring a contractor to do a quality installation on time and on budget. These five tips will help.

1.Ask neighbors, friends and co-workers for referrals.

2.Find contractors who specialize in siding, preferably with a certification

3.Contact and meet with at least three contractors to get written estimates. Make sure each is licensed and insured, and a member of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI)

4.Do background checks with the Better Business Bureau or Consumer Affairs Office.

5.Prepare a complete project description with your expectations and make sure each proposal includes everything you requested and the price is based on the complete project.

Learn More

Find further facts at www.jameshardie.com/guide.

You need not feel up against the wall when you decide to re-side your home.

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Prima Donna touring with Adam Ant

By Kelly White

After touring with Green Day, D-Generation, The Dollyrots and The Phenomenauts, the Los Angeles rockers, known as Prima Donna, join an iconic pop icon as direct support on his largest North American tour in 18 years. After sold-out shows in both USA and UK in 2012 and 2013, Grammy-nominated pop icon Adam Ant announced Prima Donna as the direct supporting artist for his upcoming 40-plus city North American tour, his largest North American tour in 18 years. The tour starts this summer on July 17th and continues through September 20th. "Adam Ant is one of the artists that changed our lives," said frontman Kevin Preston on behalf of Prima Donna. "We are beyond excited to support him on the upcoming tour. It's really inspiring. He puts everything he has into the performance. The whole atmosphere is unique. Adam Ant has always been the whole package. I'm a lifelong fan."

The rock 'n roll band, Prima Donna, is originally from Los Angeles and formed in 2003, featuring singer/guitarist Kevin Preston (formerly of The Skulls), Saxophonist/Keyboardist Aaron Minton, drummer David S. Field, bassist "Lights Out" Levine, and guitarist Erik Arcane. Their sound features saxophone, piano and organ, along with a mix of guitar, which has been described as glam-punk rock 'n roll.

"Prima Donna was originally a nickname of mine, however, we decided it would be a suitable name for our band," Preston said.

In May of 2005, the band went on an eight country European concert tour with Texas Terri. Later that year, in December, the band played part of original Sex Pistols bassist Glen Matlock and the Philistines American tour. In the fall of 2007, Prima Donna featured a new track from their upcoming release entitled "Soul Stripper" that can be heard on the band's Myspace page. Prima Donna released their new album, "After Hours", on Sept. 2, 2008 on Acetate Records, and later in the spring of 2009 Prima Donna toured the U.S. with Eddie and the Hot Rods and later with Duane Peters Gunfight.

The band's friendship with Green Day began when Prima Donna front man, singer/guitarist Kevin Preston, joined Green Day side-project Foxboro Hot Tubs for their live dates. In 2009, they supported Green Day throughout its European leg of the 21st Century Breakdown World Tour. They were the opening act for Green Day in Stockholm, Oslo, Belfast, Dublin, Glasgow, Birmingham, London and Manchester, among others, and in 2010, they returned to support Green Day throughout Asia in Bangkok, Singapore, Hong Kong, Seoul, Osaka, Tokyo, and Nagoya. In 2011, the band recorded the follow-up album to "After Hours" with producer Chris Dugan at Jingletown Recording Studios in Oakland, CA.

It's always a blast working alongside Greenday," Preston added, "We get along with them like brothers. They are the hardest working band out there. They live and breathe music."

Following Prima Donna's extensiv touring with Green Day, Green Day offered up their own Jingletown Recorders in Oakland for Prima Donna to use, and enlisted their head engineer, Chris Dugan, to guide the journey. The end result is the 12-song, Dugan-produced "Bless this Mess". Right from the opening "Sociopath", (a back handed look at the social media obsession), through the soul-infused "Tryin'", to the sleazy "Crimson Lust", and the barroom sing-along "Broken", this is an album that is determined to take you on a voyage. "We wanted to make an album that was hard to categorize," says drummer David, "We want people to get involved in it."

The Los Angeles-based quintet has been a non-stop touring juggernaut since releasing "Bless This Mess" on Acetate Records in 2012. The initial Adam Ant tour dates coincide with the release of the video for "Sociopath," the lead-off track on "Bless this Mess". After returning from their third European tour since the release, this will be Prima Donna's third North American outing for "Bless".

"It would definitely be difficult to name our greatest success thus far," Preston went on to say, "Hard to choose, but I'd have to go with our travels. We've played rock and roll in 25 countries so far." Adam Ant claims Prima Donna to have a great glam-rock sound and some of their influences remind him of his early days playing the clubs around London. Adam Ant (born Stuart Leslie Goddard; November 3, 1954) is an English musician who gained popularity as the lead singer of new romantic /post-punk group Adam and the Ants and later as a solo artist, scoring ten UK top ten hits from 1980 to 1983, including three No. 1's. Ant was also popular in the United States, and once voted sexiest man in America by the viewers of MTV. He has also worked as an actor, appearing in over two dozen films and television episodes from 1985 to 2003. Since 2010, Ant has undertaken an intensive reactivation of his musical career, performing live regularly in his hometown of London and beyond, recording and releasing a new album and with three full-length UK national tours, a U.S. national tour and a short Australian tour all now completed with the second U.S. national tour currently scheduled featuring Prima Donna. Prima Donna and Adam Ant preformed at the Congress Theater, located at 2135 N. Milwaukee Avenue, on August 1st. For more upcoming show information, please visit the band's website: www.primadonnarocks.com or www.Adam-Ant.com.

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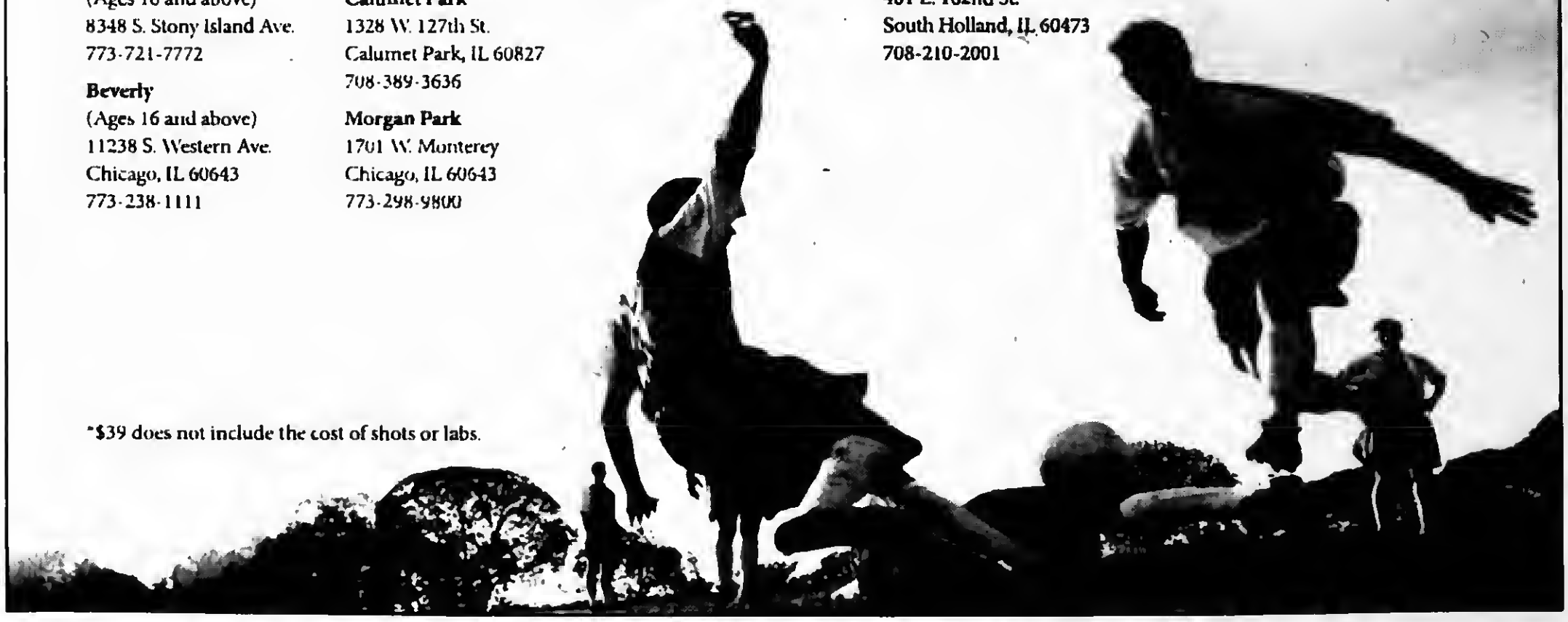

Longtime Ritaman, John O'Neill '79, Hired as Director of Institutional Advancement

St. Rita has announced the hiring of John O'Neill '79 as the Director of Institutional Advancement.

O'Neill, a graduate of St. Rita in 1979, has spent the last 30 years serving in key roles with highly admired companies such as IBM and Xerox. A highly respected leader and manager, O'Neill's main responsibilities included the sale of software products which peaked into the millions on a yearly basis. For his accomplishments, IBM previously recognized him as the Worldwide Account Executive of the Year. O'Neill believes these experiences will propel him into success in his new role.

"When this opportunity arose, I thought it would be the perfect chance to apply the lessons I've learned over the past 30 years in business to further advance the mission of St. Rita and build on our proud 108-year old history," O'Neill commented.

John is also a highly regarded college football referee. For the last 11 years he has been a member of the Big Ten Football officiating staff and has refereed many bowl games, including the 2009 Orange Bowl and this past years' Big Ten Championship game.

John is no stranger to the St. Rita family, having served as a valued contributor to the Board of Directors for the last five years. His intimate knowledge of both the opportunities and challenges at St. Rita made him a standout among other candidates.

"This role is both challenging and humbling at the same time," O'Neill stated. "I look forward to hitting the ground running, meeting with our students, faculty and staff, alumni and friends of St. Rita to help carry on the mission and traditions of this wonderful institution."

Long before this, he walked the halls of St. Rita where he built a lasting legacy serving as a captain on the school's first IHSA state championship football team in 1978. John's success on the field carried over into his business career and President Ernie Mrozek, feels that consistency will carry over into his role at St. Rita.

"John is very passionate about St. Rita, our mission, and the great opportunities that lie ahead," Mrozek stated. "This passion, combined with his strong communication and interpersonal skills and ability to cultivate relationships, will be invaluable to St. Rita in his new role."

John is the middle link in a three generation St. Rita family, following in the footsteps of his late father, Bill O'Neill, '41, and paving the way for his sons Danny, '09 and Mike, '11. He and his wife, Peg, have been married for 25 years, and also have two wonderful daughters, Megan and Molly Rose. The O'Neill's have lived on the southwest side of Chicago for many years and currently reside in Evergreen Park.

When asked what St. Rita has meant to him John O'Neill simply stated, "Not many people get the opportunity to go home again. I've been part of several winning organizations in my life and I just rejoined one of the best."

Weekday Getaways Are The Ticket To Savings

(NAPSA)-Millions of Americans will hit the road this summer in search of fun and sun. In fact, many will take to the road more than once. A recent survey conducted by hospitality management company Destination Hotels & Resorts found that 76 percent of travelers plan to take frequent, short trips this summer, compared to only 22 percent who plan to take a week-or-longer vacation.

But even short weekend trips during the busy summer travel season can be costly. AARP Member Advantages suggests that travelers consider Monday through Friday trips for the greatest value. Here's why:

*Lower hotel rates. Hotel prices are based on the number of rooms available. During the week, hotels tend to be less booked, which can lead to lower rates and increase the likelihood of a room-size upgrade or a better view.

*Late checkout. Many hotel chains offer travelers later check-out times during the week, and for some, late checkout is available year-round. For example, AARP members enjoy 2 p.m. checkout at Hilton hotels nationwide every day of the week.

*Fewer crowds. Between vacationers, weddings, conferences and holidays, weekends are hotels' busiest times, especially in the summer. If rest and relaxation are on the itinerary, weekdays are the best time to book a getaway.

*Shorter lines for shopping, dining and theme parks. Restaurants, museums, amusement parks and malls are packed during summer weekends. Visiting these places during the week can cut down on wait times and crowds.

"Weekday trips are easy to plan and are a great way to get away from the daily routine," said Angela Jones, senior vice president of business development and lifestyle products at AARP Services, Inc. "Through AARP's relationships with top hotel and rental car companies, our 37 million members can take advantage of great discounts thrnughout the summer travel season."

Here are a few tips on how to maximize savings when traveling this summer:

*Ask for upgrades at check-in. Most hotels won't offer an upgrade until they know how many rooms are booked for the night. On arrival, be sure to ask if there are any free upgrades available. Ask the concierge, too, if there are any special discounts on local attractions or restaurants.

*Book online. Online rates are often cheaper than rates offered directly by the hotel. Booking online also enables travelers to compare dates easily to fit their budgets and schedules.

*Research discounts before booking. Check with hotel loyalty clubs, such as Hilton HHonors, and membership-based organizations such as AARP for upgrades and discounts on hotels, rental cars, restaurants, shopping and local attractions.

For more information on AARP member advantages or to book a trip, visit www.aarpdiscounts.com or find them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/AARPMemberAdvantages.

If rest and relaxation are on your itinerary, weekdays can be the best time to book a getaway.

Patients Rally To Raise Awareness Of Rare Disease

(NAPSA)-Nina Smith is one of the approximately 25 to 30 million Americans with a rare disease. She lives with hereditary angio_edema (HAE), which causes painful, unpredictable and potentially life-threatening swelling attacks throughout her body, including her arms, legs, face, abdomen and upper airway.

People like Nina often struggle for years to obtain an accurate diagnosis because conditions like HAE are so rare and often thought to be other, more common conditions.

"I first experienced HAE symptoms at age 6," Smith said. "I was in the first grade and had gone out to the playground for recess with the other children when my belly suddenly began hurting so badly I could hardly breathe.

The only way I could get any relief at all was to lie in the dirt curled up in a ball." Living with HAE meant dealing with attacks during vacations, holidays and birthdays.

When she was in her 30s, she experienced an HAE attack in her throat that affected her breathing. The thought of not being there for her children was terrifying.

Smith is a nurse who considers herself a patient advocate first and foremost, especially for the HAE community. She grew up with symptoms of HAE but she was not accurately diagnosed with HAE until she was 50 years old. That's when she began looking for others in her family who may also have symptoms and devoted herself to raising awareness of HAE.

Thirty years ago, the Orphan Drug Act was passed to help the pharmaceutical industry focus on rare disease treatments. Since that time, more than 400 rare disease treatments have been approved by the FDA. As scientific understanding of rare diseases evolves and advocacy organizations like the National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD) and the US Hereditary Angio_edema Association (US HAEA) promote awareness and provide patient support, times are different for people like Smith.

"The HAE community celebrates HAE Day annually to raise awareness of hereditary angio_edema around the world," said Janet Long, Executive Vice President of the US Hereditary Angioedema Association (www.HAEA.org), the advocacy and support organization for HAE patients throughout the country.

"This is a new era for HAE patients. It is important that all families affected by HAE are made aware that there are many resources available now to help them."

Raising awareness of HAE is especially important to Smith, because today there are treatment options and a supportive community of physicians, advocates and people living with HAE.

"We have certainly come a long way and I hope you'll remember that no matter what, we have it in us to be proactive about our health," Smith said.

That is why she became a Patient Ambassador for Shire (www.shire.com), a pharmaceutical company focused on rare diseases like HAE, to help raise awareness about HAE and the support available.

For Smith, HAE Awareness Day means continuing to speak out about HAE, and encouraging patients to take an active role in their health-not just one day a year, but throughout their lives.

Nina Smith, patient advocate and one of the approximately 25 to 30 million Americans with a rare disease

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Mojada set in Chicago's Pilsen neighborhood

by Annette Dixon

Victory Garden Theater presents the world premiere of Mojada with Victory Garden Associate Artist Luis Alfaro and directed by Artistic Director Chay Yew. Mojada runs until August 11.

This story is individualized by a couple escaping from the poverty of Mexico due to it's corrupted government. Included in the escape is as a husband, wife, child and Tita, their life long live in who crosses the Mexican border illegally. The story wraps around the crossing of the borders, both Mexico and the United States, also the entanglement they struggle with in life, trying to find success in America. It is a great story and hopefully not a reality for all people who leave Mexico illegally.

This play will keep you interested enough to wonder why this had to happen and how a love story could go array.

Alfaro's stunning modern take on the Greek myth tackles American immigration, family traditions, mysticism, and the explosive moment when they all collide.

Mojada features Sandra Delgado, as Media; Charin Alvarez, as Josefina; Sandra Marquez, as Armeda; Juan Francisco Villa, as Jason, Socorro Santiago, as Tita and Ricky Reyes and Dylan Lainez sharing the role of Acan.

Sandra Delgado, Media credits include Anna in the Tropics at Victory Garden Theater, The Motherf...ker with the Hat, The House on Mango Street and Sonia Flew (Steppenwolf Theatre); Pedro Paramo (Goodman Theater); Night over Erzinga (Silk Road Rising); Summertime (Lookingglass) and many other credits in Chicago and other states. She is a ensemble member of Collaboraction and Teatro Vista.

Socorro Santiago (Tita) was so good and was the main character of the perfonmance. I am sure many will remember her from T.V. Soap, All My Children ,as Isabella Santos and her film credit is where she is most recognized: Butterflies for Bill Baker, Music of the Heart, Devil's Advocate, Heaven's Prisoner, Gabriel, Order of Redemption, All Good Things, and Freedomland, and number of TV appearances include, The Good Wife, Unforgettable, Bored to Death, every incarnation of Law and Order, and many plays too numerous to mention.

Juan Francisco Villa (Jason) is making his Victory Garden debut but has been in many other Chicago plays too numerous to mention. He played his part so well I began to almost hate is character.

Charin Alvarez, Josephina did such an extraordinary job acting I thought I remembered her in many of the lead roles when I really didn't see her except in Oedipus El Rey Victory Garden, and Pedra Paramo, Dollhouse at the Goodman. She was in many other plays too numerous to mention.

Dyland M. Lainez, Acan is makng his Victory Gardens debut and at nine years old is so cute. Also he has many credits in Chicago plays for such a young man.

For ticket and infonmation, call the Victory Gardens Box Office at 773.871.3000 or visit www.victorygardens.org. Ask about $15 Senior and Student tickets.

Jedlicka Performing Arts Center presents Whistle Down the Wind

by Annette Dixon

Surprisingly enough, I visited a theatre company called JPAC at Morton College Campus Building A at 3801 S. Central Ave. in Cicero, IL. The play title Whistle Down the Wind was the first play of their season, and what a job director Dante J. Orfei had with doing not only directing hut lighting design. This was quite an endeavor for him since there is a cast of 24 and ensemble of 11 and children's ensemble of 15.

We all can understand that it takes many people to coordinate a production, especially with 13 musicians in the orchestra, the Music Director is John Warren. Kelsey Overberg is the Choreographer who had a great time with over 26 people, maybe a good count might have been 50.I noticed the Multimedia Screen in the background for that was the work of Michael A. Kott, Multimedia/Sound Designer. Lindsay Prerost, Costume Designer made all the actors appear to be in the 1959 deep south era. Also Michael Nedza, Scenic and Properties Designer; Melanie Lamoureux, Theater Manager; Rebekah Mustain, Stage Manager and Anna Garcia, Assistant Manager are all a great part of this production.

The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber and the lyrics of Jim Steinman didn't make songs to remember, but it gave music for singers/actors in the play to help us enjoy this play even more than we would have without music. The credit really goes to the actors who had not only learned their lines so well, but also studied the music written for this play. This was a very difficult play for this large cast, but they did a magnificent job and the credit also goes to the production team.

Jedlicka Performing Arts Center celebrated Whistle Down the Wind as their first play for the 2013, 2014 season. The location is great for all our southside suburbanites and plenty of free campus parking. The play runs until August 10th on Fridays, Saturdays and Sunday. Tickets are $18 and $16 for seniors. Call 708-656-1800 or go to their website www.jpactheatr.com.

Slowgirl is a suspenseful new play by Greg Pierce at Steppenwolf

by Annette Dixon

This was a tough one to not only understand but also it was difficult waiting for set changes. It's a 90 minute play with no intermission and when I glanced at the audience I can tell they are avid play aficionados. The subject matter would be great for teens especially so that they would hear this great message. There may be a problem for there would be an age requirement posted because of foul language.

William Petersen, Sterling is an ensemble member but better known for his portrayal of Gil Grissom, the lead investigator of CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. He also served as executive producer on CSI.

Rae Gray, Becky has quite a repertoire in Chicago Theater and has played at Steppenwolf in The Book Thief and Wedding Band.

Shame, guilt, can reck our lives but teenage parties can he a disaster for many innocent people. It only takes one time and a future career can he lost forever. Even death can occur, similar to the hazzing incidents mentioned in the newspapers. Oh yes this play says alot, slowly but it gets the message across loud and clear.

Showgirl can he seen until August 25, and tickets can be purchased at 1650 N. Halsted St. 312-335-1650. Rush Tickets half price are availahle one hour before each show.

Beethoven Festival: LOVE 2013 Free Art Opening on Sept. 6 from 6-8 p.m.

Projects include original concert hall video installations,world premiere of symphonic graphic novel by Christian Quesnel, festival-specific commissions from 20 artists and large site-specific sculpture from Chicagoan Jason Hawk

The International Beethoven Project, led hy President and Artistic Director George Lepauw, announced that the international array of visual art components for Beethoven Festival: LOVE 2013, the organization's third annual multidisciplinary festival inspired by the creativity and genius of Ludwig van Beethoven, Sept. 7 until the 15.

An Art Opening free to the public will be held on Friday, Sept. 6 from 6-8 p.m. Joining the extensive musical lineup previously announced, visual art projects for LOVE 2013 range from original concert hall video installations to the world premiere of Ludwig, a symphonic graphic novel by Canadian Christian Quesnel that follows an impassioned Beethoven through a steampunk universe.

The continuation of the festival's art commission series will highlight new works by 20 artists and Chicagoan Jason Hawk will contribute a large site-specific sculpture that fills an entire room at the festival's headquarters, Merit School of Music's Joy Faith Knapp Music Center (38 S. Peoria Street). Additionally, an experiential space will feature improvised dance and musical and performances, live art-making and ephemeral events from Chicago's rich performance art community.

Alongside Chicago-based artists, LOVE 2013 will showcase the work of artists from across the U.S. in addition to Germany, Israel, Japan, Romania, Spain. Musical headliners include the return of composer-conductor Matthias Pintscher and a new music commission series involving Wilco drummer Glenn Kotche.

For more information please visit www.BeethovenFestival2013.com.

A little tippets to bring a smile to you

by Annette Dixon

Million Dollar Quartet became "the longest running Broadway Musical in Chicago" on May 26, with 1949 performances over five years. It surpassed Wicked, Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up and Blue Man Group, of course, their is nose out of joint because they have had performances since 1997, but they are not considered a Broadway Musical. Late Night Catholicism and Royal George Theatre beats hoth of the above because they opened in 1993 and still going strong.

Million Dollar Quartet is still playing at the Apollo Theater and will continue even after September.

Chicago Shakespeare Theater presents Shrek The Musical, accompanied hy a live orchestra off stage. The 75 minute family friendly performance is by far the best play and musical for the ticket price of only $18 to $25. Another great feature is watching the actors using the aisles on and off stage for there isn't a bad seat in the house.

The costumes are colorful and there is a large cast of well known actors from Chicago making their debut at the Shakespeare Theater plus the regular ensemble members

Shrek The Musical is recommended for age 5 and up and the play runs until September 1, 2013. After each performance, selected cast members are available for photos and autographs in the lohby.

For more information, contact their website at www.chicagoshakes.com/shrek .

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A delicious way to show your love and gratitude

(NAPSA)-You can express your warm feelings for anyone you care about with something fresh and wonderful you baked yourself.

Great baking can be easier and more fun when you start with no-knead bread. In fact, Fleischmann's Simply Homemade makes fresh, homemade bread in less than an hour, which can be great for last-minute recipes and when you want to create a thoughtful (end edible!) gift. Here are two delicious ideas to try, using the basic mix as a starter:

Baking a Cherry Lime Coffee Cake can be a tasty way to show someone you care.

Cherry Lime Coffee Cake

Prep Time: 10 minutes
Rise Time: 25 minutes
Bake Time: 30 to 35 minutes
Yields: 8 to 9 servings

1 cup milk
1 package Fleischmann's Simply Homemade Country White No Knead Bread Mix
1/3 cup cherry preserves
Freshly grated peel from 1 lime
1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
1 package (5 ounces) dried cherries (3/4 cup)

Lime Glaze:

1 tablespoon lime juice
1/3 cup powdered sugar
1/4 teaspoon pure vanilla extract

Pour milk into a large microwave-safe bowl. Micro_wave until milk is warm (105° to 115°). Sprinkle contents of yeast and sugar packets over milk and stir to combine. Let mixture sit for 3 minutes. Stir in cherry preserves, lime peel, 1 teaspoon vanilla, dried cherries and bread mix. Place dough in a greased 8-inch round OR 8x8-inch square pan. Cover and let rise in a warm, draft-free place for 25 minutes. Bake in a preheated 375°F oven for 30 to 35 minutes, until golden brown. Combine glaze ingredients in a small bowl until smooth. Remove cake from oven and let cool in pan 5 minutes. Brush top with lime glaze. Cool completely.

French Toast Bake

Prep Time: 15 minutes
Chill Time: 8 hours or overnight
Bake Time: 50 to 55 minutes
Yields: 6 to 8 servings

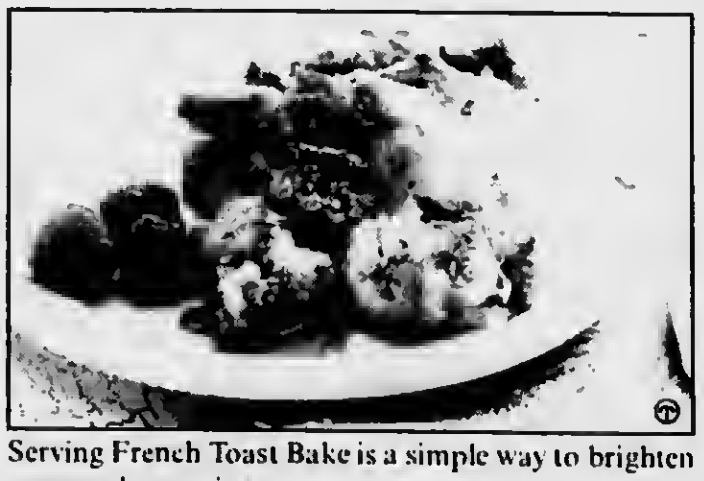
1/2 loaf prepared Fleischmann's Simply Homemade Country White, Multi-Grain OR Stoneground Wheat No Knead Bread Mix
5 eggs
2 tablespoons pure maple syrup
1 cup milk
1 cup heavy cream
1/3 cup sugar
1 tablespoon pure vanilla extract

Topping:

1/4 cup butter OR margarine, softened
1/2 cup brown sugar

Chop bread into cubes; place in a greased 8x8-inch pan.

Combine eggs, syrup, milk, cream, sugar and vanilla in a large bowl. Whisk until smooth. Pour mixture over bread. Combine topping in_gredients; sprinkle over top. Cover and refrigerate over_night. Uncover and place in cold oven. Set oven to 350°F and bake for 50 to 55 minutes or until set. Let stand 10 minutes before serving. Serve warm with additional syrup.



Serving French Toast Bake is a simple way to brighten someone's morning.

Learn More

For more recipes and tips, visit www.Simplyhomemadebread.com or www.facebook.com/simplyhomemademix.

Did You Know?

(NAPSA)-More than 360,000 adults age 55 and over serve through Senior Corps programs, including Foster Grandparent, Senior Companion and RSVP volunteers. To learn how you can use your skills and experience for good at any age, go to www.Serve.gov or call (800) 942-2677.

Through AARP's relationships with several top hotel and rental car companies, its 37 million members can take advantage of all sorts of great deals and discounts. For more information on discounts or to book a trip, visit www.aarpdiscounts.com or www.facebook.com/AARPMember Advantages.

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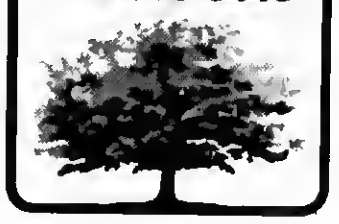

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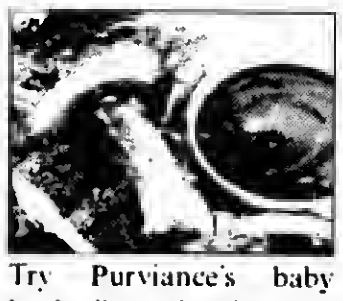

Try Purviance's baby back ribs recipe for your next barbecue.

Tips for grilling better Baby Back Ribs

(NAPSA)-Ribs are a grilling favorite: however, according to the 24th annual Weber GrillWatch Survey, 17 percent of grill owners consider ribs to be the most challenging food to grill.

"There are a few tricks to the trade when it comes to delicious ribs," says NY Times best-selling author Jamie Purviance. "Removing the membrane from the back of the ribs is essential, and of course cooking over low indirect heat for a long time results in fall-off-the-bone ribs every time."

Purviance outlines all of his tips for grilling perfect ribs in a two-page Grill Skills spread in his new cookbook, "Weber's New Real Grilling."

Baby Back Ribs With Spicy Rub And Molasses Barbecue Sauce

Serves: 4
Prep time: 20 minutes
Grilling time: 31/4-41/4 hours

Rub:

2 tablespoons packed golden brown sugar
1 tablespoon kosher salt
2 teaspoons chipotle chili powder
2 teaspoons garlic powder
1 teaspoon prepared chili powder
1 teaspoon ground cayenne pepper
1 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
2 racks baby back ribs, each 2-21/2 pounds

Sauce:

2 tablespoons unsalted butter
1 yellow onion, 7-8 ounces, finely chopped
1 cup ketchup
3/4 cup light molasses (not blackstrap)
1/2 cup beer, preferably lager
1/4 cup cider vinegar
3 tablespoons tomato paste
1 1/2 teaspoons mustard powder
1 teaspoon garlic powder
1 cup beer, preferably lager

Combine the rub ingredients. Using a dull knife, slide the tip under the membrane covering the back of each rack of ribs. Lift and loosen the membrane until you can pry it up, then grab a corner of it with a paper towel and pull it off. Season the racks all over with the rub, and allow them to stand at room temperature for 45 minutes before grilling. Prepare the grill for indirect cooking over low heat (250° to 350° F). Meanwhile, in a sauce_pan over medium-high heat, melt the butter. Add the onion and cook until slightly softened, 3 to 4 minutes, stirring occasionally. Stir in the re_maining sauce ingredients and bring to a boil. Reduce the heat to medium-low and simmer, uncovered, until thickened, for 18 to 20 minutes. Remove from the heat. Place the racks, bone side down, over indirect low heat, as far from the heat as possible, close the lid, and cook for 3 hours. After the first hour, baste the racks with beer, particularly any areas that are looking a little dry. Continue to baste with beer every hour or so. After 3 hours, check to see if one or both racks are ready to come off the grill. They are done when the meat has shrunk back from the ends of most of the bones by 1/4 inch or more. Lift a rack by picking up one end with tongs. It should bend in the middle and the meat should tear easily. If the meat does not tear easily, return the racks to the grill, close the lid, and continue cooking for up to 1 hour more. Remove the racks from the grill and lightly brush them on both sides with some of the sauce. Return the racks to the grill and cook over indirect low heat, with the lid closed, until the surface is slightly crispy, 10 to 20 minutes, turning occasionally. Remove from the grill and let rest for 5 to 10 minutes. Cut the racks between the bones into individual ribs; serve warm with the remaining sauce.

(c)2013 Weber-Stephen Products LLC. Recipe from Weber's New Real Grilling(tm) by Jamie Purviance. Used with permission.

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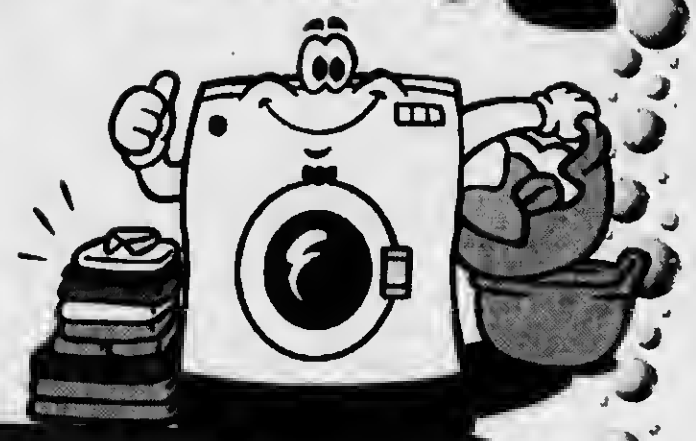

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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 40 | Number 5 | September 3, 2013

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

Ground Breaking to commence for Mariano's at K-Mart site

by Matt Mayer

Representatives from Hamilton Partners gave a slide presentation at a recent Oak Lawn Board of Trustees meeting on what the upscale Mariano's and the green space is slated to look like at the former K-Mart site at 111th and Cicero Avenue, which is now named "Stony Creek Promenade" Officials said at lease 5 other stores have contacted either the developer or the village expressing interest in becoming part of the development, however no details were released

The site is a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District, which was created by the previous board in 2006 and is bounded by 111th Street on the south, Cicero Avenue on the east, Leamington Avenue on the west and condominiums and the Wolfe Wildlife Center on the north Village Manager Larry Deetjen said that the village would continue to work with the developer to attract other successful tenants to the development

The 72,000 sq ft building will feature a big glass rotunda to draw motorist attention on Cicero Avenue and 111th Street The parking lot will be completely landscaped to the curb, said Deetjen Trustee Alex Olejniczak (D-2) will work with the village green committee to integrate the project with the Wolfe Wildlife Refuge Center Additional information about other developments by Hamilton Partners may be obtained at www.hamiltonpartners.com/

Mariano's sales average approximately $1.5 million per year at their other 5 locations. The development will also create a minimum of 800 new jobs, said Deetjen. Former Mayor Dave Heilmann announced the lease agreement with Mariano's at the Feb 26 Board of Trustees meeting. Mariano's is headed by former Dominick's CEO, Bob Mariano. Mariano's website may be obtained at www.marianos.com/.

Evergreen Park moving along on Plaza redevelopment

by Matt Mayer

Officials approved an ordinance at the Aug. 19 Evergreen Park Board of Trustees meeting authorizing negotiations for the acquisition of the tenants rights and interest in the lease dated June 23, 1961 between Evergreen Plaza Associates I, L P. as landlord and Meril, LLC as tenant on property located in Evergreen Plaza

"Carson's is about the only store left," said Mayor James Sexton. This ordinance allows the Village Attorney Vince Cainkar to speak to Carson's about purchasing or buying out their lease and proceed with the demolition and redevelopment of the mall by Tampa Fl based De Bartolo Development

The mall first opened in the summer of 1952 as Evergreen Park Plaza The redevelopment will take the plaza site from one era to another No specifics regarding the new development have been released yet. The mall officially closed on May 31. For addition information regarding the developer and the development visit www.DeBarttolodevelopment.com.

Applebee's, which is located in an out lot, will remain open. Applebee's Corporation began closing stores earlier this year however the owners of this franchise purchased the business from Applebee's. They will continue to handle the same type of menu and ambiance according to Sexton at a previous board meeting.

Sexton said, "We are very fortunate that Gold Standard Enterprises is going to enter Evergreen Park and bring us a Binny's Beverage Depot. They have been in the business for a long time and are a professional and first class operation. We are very glad to have them moving into the former Bleekers site which went out of business". The business application was unanimously approved. Binny's features online ordering with local pick up of fine wines, spirits, beer and beverages, cigars, and gourmet gifts. Additional information regarding Binny's may be obtained by visiting www.binnys.com/.

Justice opens way for Lions Club

by Jan Glaz

Lions Clubs International is the world's largest service club organization with more than 1.3 million members in approximately 45,000 clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas around the world. On August 26th at the Village of Justice President and Board of Trustees Meeting, Village Clerk, Kathleen Svoboda, proudly announced an informational meeting and Membership Drive for the Lions Club to be held on Monday, September 16th at 7:00 p.m. at the Justice Village Hall, 7800 Archer Road in Justice. Kathy relayed that the Membership Team of the Bridgeview Lions Club will be on hand to answer any questions and to help those who would like to create a Justice Chapter of this most worthwhile organization The Lions Club supports a network of volunteers who work together to answer the needs that challenge communities. "Please join us and find out what being a Lion can do for you and your community, locally and beyond," requested, Clerk Svoboda.

During the Correspondence portion of the meeting, Clerk Kathy Svoboda acknowledged a letter from the Chairman of the constitutional committee of the society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) inviting all to participate in the celebration of the 226th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the United States during the week of September 17-23. The Village of Justice will recognize the proclamation during the September 9th Board of Trustees meeting Public Law 915 guarantees the issuing of a proclamation each year by the President of the United States of America designating September 17 through 23 as Constitution Week

Before the Chair entertained a motion to adjourn, Trustee Ed Rusch Jr introduced a motion approved by the board for payables numbers 1-18 in the amount of $21,687.79; recurring expenses of $12,011.90; MFT Expenses of $10,033.96; and TIF #4 expenses of $1,352.54, for a total of $45,096.19. In regards to a grant seeking funds in the amount of $282,000 for the Village public road reconstruction project, Trustee Rick Symonds brought forth a motion that carried for a Resolution Authorizing the Application and Matching Funds for the Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program Grant.

Hickory Hills prepares to honor Arlene Spiros

by Jan Glaz

During the new business portion of the Hickory Hills City Council Meeting on August 22nd Alderman Tom

McAvoy introduced a Resolution that he and Mayor Mike Howley will present for council consideration at the September 26th City Council Meeting in regards to the passing of Arlene Spiros, a tireless and esteemed volunteer involved with many Hickory Hills organizations.

In August of 2012, Arlene, a longtime resident, helped establish the 'Arlene Spiros Academic Foundation Scholarship at Moraine Valley Community College'. The criteria: recipients must be single mothers, 30 years of age or older and in good academic standing at Moraine Valley. The first recipient received a stipend of $1,500 for the 2013-2014 school year.

Alderman McAvoy related that Arlene arranged that her contributions to her community would continue after her passing and he proposed that the City approve a donation of $100.00 from the city's "Discretionary Fund" to the scholarship fund. It came as a welcome surprise to the city council when Treasurer Dan Schramm revealed that the city had $2,600 in the discretionary fund and they could donate more than requested. Mayor Mike Howley agreed and a motion carried in the amount of $250.00. The discretionary fund is not funded by taxpayers' dollars, the source of the funds stem from the proceeds of the raffles held at the city's annual Street Fair entertainment tent and the city only occasionally makes donations from that fund.

Assuming McAvoy and the Mayor's Resolution meets with approval on September 26th; a copy of the Resolution along with a check for $250.00 will be presented to members of Arlene Spiros family. All are welcome to honor Arlene by making a personal donation to her Scholarship Fund.

Contact: Susan Linn or Cynthia Smith at the Moraine Valley Community College Foundation; call 708-608-4348 or e-mail: LinnS@morainevalley.edu

Before the meeting adjourned, a motion carried to pay an invoice for work done on sewer linings in the amount of $134,812.80 to Insituform Technologies USA, LLC

Also, Alderman McAvoy announced the September 25th Hills Chamber Golf outing held at Palos Golf Course, 7301 W. 105th Street, Palos Hills. Included for the evening is a great package, even if golf is not played, for a price of $70.00 includes, 9 holes of golf, a gift bag, golf cart, a superb dinner, plus a chance to win a flat screen TV. Tee times start at noon. For more information, contact Donna Venezia at 708-364-7739.

Village View

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 17 | September 3, 2013

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Out of State business seeks Oak Forest Tax Incentive

by Jan Glaz

In a rare move, at the Oak Forest City Council Meeting held on August 27th, a request for approval of a Resolution supporting a Class 8 Tax Incentive for Industrial Property at 4325 Frontage Road. Anderson Copper & Brass Company. LLC. petitioner, was removed from the Agenda.

In January of 2013 Anderson relocated out of Illinois, they are looking to improve the Industrial property's position in the real estate market by having a tax break incentive in place for the next user. The Property is located in one of the City's main industrial parks and the City's Economic Advisory Commission identified it as in need of re-occupation. A Class 8 Tax incentive is provided through the County Assessor but is only considered with a municipality's support.

In this regard the approval of the resolution is a necessary requirement to attain the incentive. In dollar sense: the current taxes are $185,000 and the Class 8 will reduce them to approximately $80,000, a sizeable difference. Approval of a Resolution for the Class 8 Tax Incentive for this property may be up for vote, at a future council meeting

Oak Forest Police Chief Greg Anderson presented a promotional ceremony for Timothy Kristin as Deputy Chief of Police and Ronald Dusek as Sergeant, in the City of Oak Forest Police Department. Chief Anderson commented he couldn't be happier with the approval of Timothy Kristin who was recommended for appointment by Mayor Henry L. Kuspa. Kristin became an officer in October of 1992 and was promoted to Sergeant in 2005.

The new Deputy Chief of Police holds a Masters in Public Administration. "This is a tremendous promotion for the City of Oak Forest, for the residents, and for the City government," said Anderson, as he handed Timothy his Deputy Chief of Police badge. Chief Anderson introduced the newly appointed Police Sergeant, Ronald Dusek, and commented that he was the President of the Police Union for approximately 2 ½ years. Anderson praised Dusek's commitment to law enforcement and dedication to the City of Oak Forest. Before the meeting adjourned, the City Council approved the appointment of Bill Swinford to the Citizens Advisory Commission. A United States Army veteran, Mr. Swinford has resided in Oak Forest since 2005. He is Lead Terminal Operator for NuStar Energy in Blue Island, Illinois.

Tinley Park Dog Park relocates

by Jan Glaz

Tinley Park officials adopted an amendment to the Radcliffe Place Annexation Agreement on August 20th at the Village of Tinley Park Board Meeting. Trustee Gregory Hannon provided details in regards to the proposed dog park stating that the Village collaborated with the Developer Gallagher and Henry and the Tinley Park Park District to create the dog park on a portion of the Radcliffe Place subdivision plan and as a result the park will be located in a different location than had been contemplated in the original Planned Unit Development agreement. The park will be relocated to the southwest corner of the site from the originally contemplated northeast corner; the extension of Nielsen Drive will be realigned and areas designated for multiple family residential use will also be rearranged. Included in the amendment to the Radcliffe Place Annexation Agreement is a lease agreement between the Village and the Tinley Park Park District to lease portions of the 84th Avenue right of way for the planned dog park. The village expects around 40 dogs using the park at one time based on the purchase of approximately 590 municipal dog licenses in 2013.

Tinley Park is reorganizing its Public Safety operations and in doing so the Village has established and adopted the position of Deputy Police Chief. Due to the economic downturn the Village did not fill 2 of the usual 4 Commander Positions following retirements. The duties of Commander were spread between Patrol and Administration. Once the title changes to Deputy Police Chief, the positions of Commander will not be filled. Patriek McCain, a member of the Police Department since 1987; promoted to Sergeant in 1998; and Commander in 2007, has been appointed to the position of Deputy Police Chief (Operations). Steven Vaccaro, a member of the Police Department since 1990; promoted to Sergeant in 2002; and Commander in 2007, is appointed to the position of Deputy Police Chief (Administration).

Before the meeting adjourned, Village Clerk Patrick Rea offered updated news regarding the sale of vehicle stickers and aggressive enforcement in Tinley Park. The Village's first time effort of sending out 7,000 post cards to residents to remind them to purchase their vehicle stickers has met with success. Rea mentioned that there are around 5,000 residents who annually do not buy stickers, "Last year before the post card reminder, we received a total revenue of $1,800; this year, thus far, we've received revenues of $13,400. One has to say that the post cards have dramatically increased the number of sales."

Change of ownership at Orland Mercedes Benz

by Jan Glaz

Officials moved to approve an Incremental Sales Tax Rebate Agreement between the Village of Orland Park and Orland Park Imports, Inc. and to authorize the Village President to execute the necessary documents, on August 19th, at the Village of Orland Park Board of Trustees Meeting. The Incremental Sales Tax Rebate agreement between the Village of Orland Park and Orland Park Motors Cars met with approval back in February of 2013; however the ownership of the dealerships (d/b/a Mercedes-Benz of Orland Park, Smart Center of Orland Park, Smart of Orland Park and Sprinter of Orland Park) has changed due to the death of Clare Sunderland. A new ownership entity has been formed now - Orland Park Imports, Inc. The original agreement was not signed due to the death of Mr. Sunderland and the knowledge that a new ownership entity needed to be put in place. The Village has now received the Articles of Incorporation and the new legal entity information. An agreement has been changed to reflect this new ownership. No other changes to the previously approved agreement have been made. It is reported that the same family of Mr. Sunderland controls the dealerships.

Board Meeting endnotes: Mayor McLaughlin presented a Community Pride Award to Kara Gogolew in recognition of her earning the Girl Scout Gold Award. The Girl Scout Gold Award represents the highest achievement in Girl Scouting.

Open only to girls in high school, this prestigious award challenges you to change the world, or at least your corner of it, and be eligible for college benefits as well. By the time girls put the final touches on a seven-step project, they'll have solved a community problem, not only in the short term, but for years into the future.

Park Lawn requested a license to conduct a raffle at their Park Lawn Bunco Night Fundraiser on Monday, September 20, 2013 at the Orland Park Civic Center and the board agreed.

The purpose for this raffle is to benefit Park Lawn services for disabled persons at workshops.

Orland Township Health Services hosts screenings for residents

Orland Township, 14807 S. Ravinia Avenue, is hosting free blood pressure screenings from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. on the first and third Friday of the month. No appointment is necessary.

In addition to blood pressure screenings, on the first Friday of the month, VCP Home Health Care, Inc. will be on hand at the township to conduct balance screenings, which can help prevent dangerous falls. Glucose screenings are also available on this day for $5.

High blood pressure can lead to many serious conditions, such as heart disease and heart failure. To prevent these problems, it's important to have blood pressure checked and to identify any existing problems so that lifestyle changes can be made.

For more information, contact Orland Township at (708) 403-4222.

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SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 14 | Number 17 | September 3, 2013

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Palos Heights approves a contract for intersection project

by Matt Mayer

Officials at the Aug 20 Palos Heights City Council meeting awarded a contract to Davis Concrete for $76,289.60 for the 123rd Street and Harlem Avenue intersection this transpired as a result of Millennium Construction's failure to execute and return the contract within the allotted 15 day time period Davis Concrete was the next lowest bidder. A parcel payment to Dee Construction for $205,773.11 was approved as well as a payment to Seeco Consultants for $929.00. A payment of 135,054.33 to the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) for the city's portion of the Harlem Avenue lighting project was also approved

The Palos Kiwanis Club presented a check to the city from the proceeds of the Classis Car Event. Mary Lou Stachnik gave a presentation to promote and request the cities support to recognize Ovarian Cancer during the month of September. That request was approved.

The following organization tag day requests were approved. Sertoma Club, Sept. 6 & 7 at the intersection of 127th and Harlem only; American Heritage Sertoma Club, Sept 6 & 7 at the intersections of 127th and Ridgeland. 119th and Harlem, 119th and Ridgeland; Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA), Fill the Boot, September 12,13, and 14 and the Knights of Columbus, Tootsie Roll Drive, Sept 21 and 22

A motion to authorize Mayor Robert Straz to execute an agreement with T-Mobile for their antenna upgrade on the Westgate Water Tower, which includes the modification of their antenna, mounts and cabling structure as required by the city at T-Mobile's sole expense was approved. A motion to authorize Straz to execute the third amendment to the AT&T lease agreement for equipment upgrades on the Westgate Water Tower was also approved

A payment to Zenere Landscaping for $30,257.05 was approved as well as a motion to approve the release of Wendy's letter of credit for $201,505.11 A motion to authorize Straz to execute the maintenance agreement with Proven Business Systems for $710.00 per quarter for the Canon copier at city hall was also approved.

Commissioner Dan Polk outlines Internet and social network issues

by Matt Mayer

Commissioner Dan Polk gave an outline of internet security at the Aug 26 Palos Park Village Council meeting. He said the beginning of the school year is a good time to rethink issues about the internet and social networks, which have become an important part of everyday life. It's important for younger children to be careful of personal security when using sites like Facebook and Twitter, said Polk.

We ask that parents talk to their children. "I personally make it a rule to become friends on Facebook with my children. I'll tell you a little secret - you can contact your cell phone carrier and request that they send you a copy of your kid's texts", said Polk.

It's important to know all the friends your children have on their Facebook page. It's also important to establish who they are communicating with. Are they who they claim to be? Are there ones a lot older than your children and have they been in contact with them despite the fact that they don't have any legitimate reason to unless it's a relative or a teacher.

"There's also some good software out there that we have no commercial interest in such as "net nanny", which does a lot of nice things and can even set the amount of time your children are on the internet exchange and block them out", said Polk.

As far as user names for children on Facebook or in chat rooms, we encourage our children to use their initials or middle namesake as their user name rather than their first or full name. They definitely never should give out their full names when they are online. A cleverly designed user name can disguise the gender and the age of the child.

"Another thing for children, which goes for all of us, birthdays, phone numbers, home address, details about where they go to school, times they leave, how they get there, those are all important to internet safety. If residents have any questions they may call me directly", said Polk.

Chicago Ridge Village Engineer outlines current village projects

by Matt Mayer

Village Engineer Andy Purfundt gave an update on village projects currently in process at the Aug 20 Chicago Ridge Board of Trustees meeting. There are three road projects underway and they are all moving along on schedule, said Purfundt. The Lyman water main project, the 2013 Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) for the resurfacing on Lyman and 109th Streets between Major and Central Avenue, and the Cook County Community Development Block Grant water main project on Nottingham Avenue and 100th Street was slated to be completed by the end of August, said Purfundt.

A one-way sign from 2:30 to 3:30 on Oxford and 109th on school days was approved. Officials also discussed the installation of an ATM at the Municipal Building. The issue was tabled until All in One ATM could address the board outlining the benefits of machine.

The following business licenses were approved. Clopay Building Products Co., a garage door company at 10047 Virginia Avenue, Food Softy and Quality Systems at 10103 Kitty Avenue and Gillons, Inc. at 10150 Virginia Avenue.

The village is encouraging residents to join in on planning the future of Ridgeland Avenue by filling out a survey on a link which is available on the village website www.chicagoridge.org. The corridor intersects with the following municipalities: Chicago Ridge, Worth, Alsip, Palos Heights, Oak Lawn and Burbank. The project is being conducted in coordination with Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways, Regional Transit Authority, Pace and Metra according to the Website.

A proclamation declaring Sept 19 "Drive 4 Pledges Day" intended to discourage drivers especially teens, to pledge not to text while driving was approved.

12th ANNUAL VILLAGE PARADE
Saturday, September 21 starting at 11am
2013 Parade Grand Marshal ~ Steven J. Carr,
Retired Fire Chief - Palos Fire Protection District

AUTUMN IN THE PARK FESTIVAL
Friday, September 20
5:00 PM - 10:00 PM
Saturday, September 21
11:00 AM Parade
12:30 PM – 10:00 PM Fest Grounds Opened
Palos Park Village Green
8901 West 123rd Street
708-671-3700

FREE Trolley-Shuttle Service
Saturday, September 21
12:30 PM - 10:30 PM to and from festival grounds.
Pickup and drop off in front of Recreation Center 8901 W. 123rd Street.
Where to watch the Parade
The Parade marches along 123rd Street traveling west between 82nd and 90th Avenue.

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B-MAC EDITION

Volume 7 | Number 17 | September 3, 2013

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Midlothian Restructures Emergency Care Service

by Jan Glaz

On August 28th the Village of Midlothian Board of Trustees approved an Ordinance to Implement a Program to Charge Mitigation Rates for the Deployment of Emergency and Non-Emergency Services by the Fire Department for Services provided and Rendered for the Village.

In line with Village improvements for emergency care Trustee Jerome Gillis reported his department reviewed and interviewed many sources for billing agents for transport service for the Midlothian Fire Department and he recommended and introduced a motion to hire Andres Medical Billing, Ltd. Andres has been in business since 1995 and specializes in outsourced billing. The company has developed proprietary methods and provides a transparent service. "They are strictly billing and not an ambulance service," said Gillis, before board approval.

Chuck Hillyer, resident and proud son of Charlie & Betty Hillyer, was sworn in as an Emergency Service and Disaster Ageney (ESDA) officer. ESDA officers respond to a variety of emergencies that require additional emergency manpower and are on duty 24/7. Each officer must complete the required Federal Emergency Management courses for their rank. The Charlie & Betty Hillyer Memorial Gazebo stands in the heart of Midlothian's Village Center as a lasting sign of Midlothian's Community and Volunteer spirit. Trustee Gillis announced a special thank you for past services to ESDA to: Chris Tryon: Kerry Tryon: Bill Busking; and Craig Busking. The board agreed to consider Ed Henschel to the ESDA.

Midlothian has new businesses: Before the meeting adjourned. Mayor Sharon Rybak presented an update on new businesses opening in Midlothian: Dotty's Café located at 14714 S. Cicero is waiting for video gaming machines and will soon open: TKT Nail Salon will open at 14760 S. Cicero: Hardees Restaurant is busy renovating the old Krispy Kreme building at 14747 South Cicero: Steer Hogs is now open and doing business at 4712 W. 147th Street: The Dollar Tree at 14800 S. Pulaski may open at the end of September or early October; Consign It. is opening at 4718 W. 147th Street; and watch for Mama's Villa Restaurant, at 3636 W. 147th Street.

Alsip Hotels are rolling in revenue

by Jan Glaz

At the August 19th Village of Alsip Board Meeting, Mayor Patrick Kitching proudly announced that in June the Village of Alsip collected the highest hotel motel tax payment ever for one month: $51,518.28. "All the hotels in the area are booked solid all the time," said the Mayor. On that note the Mayor introduced a motion for studies to be conducted in regard to hotels. The Board unanimously agreed to Kitching's request of expenditure for a feasibility study for the proposed TIF Development at 123rd Place and Cicero Avenue and to enter into an agreement with Weaver Boos Consultants for a Waterfront Vision Plan for a sum not to exceed $15,000.

Important board decisions: A representative from the Lighthouse Church of All Nations appeared before the Alsip Board of Trustees to voice a request to waive construction permit fees for the church. After a brief discussion, the Board voted to deny the request on the grounds that upon investigation of records from the Alsip Building Department dating from December 2004 up to the present day none had a reduction in any of their fees. A trustee commented before the vote, "It is the practice in Alsip that these permits are not waived."

When Trustee Dwyer brought forth a motion in regards to too many of the same type of businesses doing business in Alsip, officials granted approval for the Planning and Zoning Commission to hold a Public Hearing to discuss moratoriums on certain businesses that are over saturated within the Village of Alsip and to refer an Ordinance prohibiting these businesses to the attorney for review.

The Village will proceed with posting for and hiring of a full time clerical person to be utilized in the Water and Building Departments. The board also agreed to post for hiring a Class II Operator. Before adjournment. Deborah Freischlag was approved as Finance Director, as authorized agent, and Heather Tomkow, as contact person for IMRF (Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund); Firefighter Richard Kraus as temporary Fire Lieutenant; retired Alsip D/C Joe Schmitt and retired Fire Prevention Officer (Westmont Fire Department) Doug Daniels, as Director of Fire Prevention.

Fifth Annual Rose Walk

On Sunday, September 15, 2013, Blue Cap Family & Friends Association will host the Fifth Annual Rose Walk in memory of Rose Fanucce. Rose was a long-time Blue Cap employee who worked closely with the individuals who receive support and services at Blue Cap.

The location for the walk is Midlothian Meadows Forest Preserve, located at 155th & Pulaski Ave. in Midlothian. Registration begins at 9:00 am. and the walk begins at 10:00 am. Contact for more details Ellen Boyd at 708.389.6578 Ext 120

In addition to the leisurely walk through the scenic Midlothian Meadows Preserve, this event also features raffles and family activities. Food and music will also be provided. Proceeds will be used at Blue Cap to provide activities for participants in all of Blue Cap's nine distinct programs for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities

Standing left to Right: Fire Chief, Terry Vrshek, Deputy Fire Chief, Jim Klinker; Director John Rita at the podium; Betty Nagle, Joe DiNovo; Alderman Candace Carr; Jacquelyn Callham, VP Great Lakes Bank; Greg Lochow, Chamber of Commerce Director; Ron Shropshire, President Great Lakes Bank and Mayor Domingo Vargas.

Great Lakes Bank gives back to their community

Great Lakes Bank President, Ron Shropshire presented a check to Mayor Domingo Vargas for $12,000 to for the Blue Island Fireman's Radio Grant Fund at our City of Blue Island August 27th City Council meeting. The Blue Island Fire Department was awarded a FEMA grant for more than $200,000 to purchase new telecommunication gear to enhance firefighter safety and effectiveness! This grant required Blue Island to match a portion of the amount awarded. Community-minded Great Lakes Bank generously pledged to match the donations raised dollar for dollar up to $12,000! Through private donations, a Blue Island Chamber of Commerce fundraiser at Double Play Saloon and the generous donation match by Great Lakes Bank, the new telecommunications radios have now been purchased. A big thank to all those involved.

Big Brain Benefits of Playing Chess

The value of developing strategic thought patterns in young people is immeasurable. Chess players demonstrate positive achievements especially in math problem solving, science, and reading comprehension. The benefits to a young mind playing chess are colossal, here are just a small number: playing chess improves schoolwork and grades, develops logical thinking, develops memory, improves concentration, teaches independence, inspires self-motivation, and promotes imagination and creativity. Chess players develop the capability to predict and foresee consequences of action Chess also enables you to meet many interesting people

Palos Park offers a Youth Chess class designed for players ages 6-12 of all skill levels at the Palos Park Recreation Department, 8901 West 123rd Street Classes are taught by Polina Korenman, a certified instructor by the US Chess Federation. Classes begin September 25 through October 30 on Wednesdays from 6:45 pm to 7:45 pm Fee is $75 for residents, $90 for unincorporated residents, and $95 for non residents of Palos Park. Register early to ensure your child a spot

Pictured, left to right are Dan McGuire, Adeline McGuire, Katey Gallagher, John Gallagher, Ginny Gallagher and John Gallagher. Adeline and young John each received a $1,000 scholarship from Knights of Columbus Council # 1444 during the council's August 28th meeting.

Knights of Columbus Council #1444 during the council's August 28th meeting

Mount Greenwood, Chicago, Illinois – Father Perez Knights of Columbus Council #1444 presented a $1,000 scholarship each to Adeline McGuire from Queen of Martyrs Parish and John Gallagher of St. Linus Parish. The scholarships will help each with tuition during their freshman year at a Catholic parochial high school. Since 2000, the council has distributed $36,000 in scholarships to young men and women who have matriculated to a Catholic parochial high school.

Adeline graduated in the spring from E. H. Sutherland Elementary School and has begun her high school career at Mount Assisi Academy in Lamont. She plans to be very active in extracurricular activities by participating in dance, drama and math clubs, and in student council and serving as a student ambassador. Adeline dreams of being a lawyer who concentrates on special education law. She is the daughter of Dan and Jennifer McGuire.

John, the son of John and Ginny Gallagher, has followed his father's footsteps to Brother Rice. The St. Linus alumnus is serving as a football team manager, and is running cross country. He plans to play basketball during the winter sports season and run track in the spring. John is enrolled in mostly honors courses and is considering a career as a stock trader.

The two awardees earned the scholarship by outscoring 8 other recent elementary school graduates, two girls and four boys during an exam in the council's club house on May 19th. The exam was proctored by Past Grand Knight Jack Ullrich and Council Recorder Bob Szyman. Karen Lynch graded the exams.

Illinois State Knights of Columbus Council District Deputy Larry Jourdan praised 36 council members in attendance for the council's support of the community through its scholarship program.

Grand Knight John Donovan said, "The council is pleased to advance the cause of Catholic education by helping young people cover their tuition. We wish them the best of luck academically, socially, and spiritually as they enjoy their high school years. They are off to great starts.

Go on our website for a little extra lift! vvnew.com

Special Olympics Chicago announces partnership with Annual Electric R 5K

Special Olympics Chicago (SOC) announces it has teamed with Electric Run®, the world's premiere nighttime 5K run/walk experience, which will take place on Friday, September 6 beginning at 8 pm at Chicago's McCormick Place Convention Center. Proceeds from the Chicago race will help to fund the programs and activities enjoyed year-round by the more than 5500 athletes of Special Olympics Chicago.

"We are thrilled that Special Olympics Chicago will be the beneficiary of the 2013 Electric Run in Chicago," said Jen Kramer, president of SOC. "Electric Run is such a fun and unique race for all who participate. We are looking forward to working with the great team at Electric Run on this fabulous event."

Electric Run is like no other run. The all-ages, nighttime event will feature premiere musical acts, and a race course that will include more than one million watts of mesmerizing colorful light art installations, complete with neon trees, rainbow-hued runnels and lit-up lakes.

"At its core, Electric Run is founded upon giving back by giving proceeds to a philanthropy it firmly believes in," said Dan Hill, founder of Electric Run. "Special Olympics Chicago was the easy choice for Electric Run in Chicago."

Online registration for Electric Run Chicago is between $45 and $60 depending on registration dates. Volunteers are also encouraged to sign up by visiting www.electricrun.com/chicago.

For more information on Special Olympics Chicago, please visit www.sochicago.org.

Moraine Valley reading 'World War Z' for One Book, One College

The fictional oral history of a zombie apocalypse is the selected text for Moraine Valley Community College's One Book, One College program for the 2013-14 academic year. The college's Library will host several events this fall that feature themes from "World War Z" by Max Brooks. The Library is in Building L, on campus, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills. All events are free and open to the public.

The opening event welcomes Roosevelt University's literary scholar Mairin Barney on Wednesday, September 11, noon to 1 p.m. Barney will explore "World War Z" and zombie literature as well as define characteristics of the genre and how Brooks' work fits into it.

Moraine Valley faculty members from various disciplines will lead a panel discussion on "Surviving a Zombie Apocalypse" on Tuesday, September 24, 12:30 to 1:45 p.m. Each will share how they think governments and institutions would stand up to a major societal collapse and will be challenged to think about how they would survive an apocalypse.

Another panel discussion, "Am I Really an Individual or Just a Zombie?," will be on Thursday, October 3, 11 a.m. to noon. Philosophy faculty members will discuss the ways philosophers have thought about the individual and the group.

"Zombies, Art and Pop Culture" is a third panel discussion led by Moraine Valley faculty members on Wednesday, October 9, from 1 to 2 p.m. The creepy, brain-hungry zombie has become a symbol across art, film and literature. Where did it come from and why does it resonate with audiences?

The college will show the feature film "World War Z," starring Brad Pitt, on Saturday, October 12, 6:30 p.m., on the Gateway. Bring blankets and food for a free outdoor movie. The movie will be moved inside Building M in the event of inclement weather.

During "Zombie Math: Real-World Implications of the Numbers," math and biology faculty members will use a fictional zombie outbreak as a way to explore real-world mathematical models used to predict disease outbreaks, spread of gossip, "predator/prey" models in nature, and other network theory applications.

The final event features Kevin Navratil,

Get certified in Project Management at Moraine Valley

Project managers can prepare for their certification exam as a Project Management Professional (PMP)® or Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM)® at Moraine Valley Community College this fall. The Project Management Program, which kicks off in September and wraps up in November, will equip participants with the knowledge and confidence required to get a project management certification before the exam is updated. Classes include Essentials of Project Management beginning September 26, Advanced Project Management beginning October 23, and Project Management Professional (PMP®) Certification Exam Preparation on November 8. Completion of all three classes will provide the professional development units required to obtain a CAPM or PMP® certification. The Project Management Institute (PMI) has seen a fivefold growth in membership in the last 12 years, 80 percent of which is driven by the increased use of project managers in the IT and technology sectors. The PMI forecasts 1.2 million project managers will be added each year through 2016. Highly experienced project managers can earn a median salary of $96,000. To learn more, call (708) 974-5735 or email cece@morainevalley.edu. Register today in person at the Registration Office, located in S125 on campus, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills, or by calling (708) 974-2110 (TTY for the hearing impaired 708-974-9556). Participants also can register online at morainevalley.edu by selecting "Register for Noncredit Classes" under Academic Focus then "Search, register and pay for noncredit classes."

Know the 10 Signs that can detect Alzheimers

EARLY DETECTION MATTERS

This program focuses on the 10 warning signs of serious memory loss. It includes a basic overview of Alzheimer's disease and covers risk factors, diagnosis, and the benefits of early detection. There is no charge for this program which will run from 10:30-11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 24 at the Bremen Township Senior Center, 15350 S. Oak Park Ave., Oak Forest. Registration is required, however, by calling 687-8220 or Alzheimer's Assn. at 847-933-2413 or visit www.alz.org/illinois.

Lunch will be available to seniors 60 or older with an advance reservation at 687-8220. Requested donation for lunch is $4.00; on the menu: Swedish meatballs, noodles, vegetables and more.

Snow Plowing, Power Washing, Tree Trimming, Stump Removal, Kitchen and Bath Remodeling, Seal Coating, Massorary, Tuck-pointing, Gutters Cleaned, Roof Repair, Healing, call for rates as low as $20 and up.
Call Linda for details, at 708-425-1910.

Oak Lawn High School welcomes new school resource officer

Oak Law Community High School is excited to announce the addition of a School Resource Officer, Peter Hennessy. Peter lives in Oak Lawn with his wife and three children and has been an Oak Lawn Policeman for fifteen years. During the last 13 years he spent the majority of his time as a Field Training Officer. His job was to teach new police officers how to take their police academy instruction and translate that into being a street cop.

Peter became associated with Oak Lawn Community High School several years ago when he began directing traffic on Southwest Highway each morning. When he heard there was an opening at the school for a School Resource Officer, he jumped at the opportunity. The current national trend is to put police in schools. It only makes sense that OLCHS should do the same. Peter's focus at the school is that of campus security. He is here to help the students, staff members, and visitors feel safe and would like to be a positive role model in the students' lives. Peter said, "I have found success in my career by treating people like people. Policemen usually encounter people at the worst times: victim of crime, in a car accident, getting a ticket, getting arrested. I have tried to keep that in mind and be empathetic, even as I placed handcuffs on someone. I've had many people thank me after I've arrested them! That always makes me chuckle. According to Superintendent Dr. Michael Riordan, ensuring that students, staff, and visitors are safe and secure has been a goal for the Board of Education for several years and securing a full-time School Resource Officer is part of the district's ongoing efforts for a safe and supporting learning environment. During the past several years, the district has upgraded the security camera system, installed telephones in every classroom, constructed a secured visitor's entrance, and hired additional security personnel to monitor the campus. Riordan said, "School safety and security has always been a priority and will continue to be a priority. We have always provided a secure learning environment and our recent efforts are being implemented to bring our school safety up to 21st Century standards."

After thirteen years of patrolling the streets of Oak Lawn, Pete Hennessy was recently assigned to Oak Lawn Community High School as the School Resource Officer.

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Oak Lawn, IL
708-423-8380

Sertoma inviting Golfers for a benefit event

Sertoma Centre, Inc. Foundation cordially invites you to attend the annual silent partner golf outing Thurs., Sept. 19, at beautiful Ravisloe Country Club 18231 South Park Ave., Homewood, IL.

You do not go anywhere else but stay at the course for breakfast, lunch, cocktails, dinner and awards. Any question about what to do or how many in your party, contact Elizabeth Baun, Special events and Grants Manager at 708-730-6210 or visit her website at ebaun@sertomacentre.org

Interested in becoming a Silent Partner call Amy Chmura, Director of Advancement & Communications at 708-730-6206 or visit her website at achmura@sertomacentre.org

McCord Gallery serves a great purpose for the community at large

The McCord Gallery & Cultural Center was formed through the interests and hard work of the local community. A passionate group of volunteers assembled by the Village of Palos Park determined the fate of the McCord House... to be an arts center. Incorporated with 501(c)3 status in February 2003, the group took time to develop a fund-raising campaign before opening in September of 2004. Palos Fine Arts, Palos Park Women's Club, and the District 118 [education] Foundation were integral in McCord's capital campaign and helped the organization raise over $30,000.

McCord operates with the Board of Directors and several smaller committees of volunteers for operations and programming. The Executive Director works closely with all committees, oversees day-to-day operations, and is the chairperson of programming/curriculum.

McCord Gallery is now open six days a week adding more accomplishments to the list each day. In less than six years McCord has become an important part of the community with nearly 120 music students and 100 art students attending each quarter. McCord's immediate goals for the future include further development of the volunteer team, increasing community awareness and involvement, building an annex, and continuing to offer new and exciting artistic opportunities to the Chicagoland's southwest community.

McCord Gallery has received grants and support from Illinois Arts Council, Chicago Southland Convention and Visitors Bureau, Andrew Foundation, Great Lakes Bank, Palos Bank & Trust, and private donations

Midlothian informs Welcome Home Heroes on Sept. 16 at Village Hall

The Illinois Welcome Home Heroes program provides critical financial support to men and women who have honorably served in our armed forces. Welcome Home Heroes offers:

*$10,000- cash assistance to cover down payment and closing costs

*30-year fixed rate mortgage with a competitive interest rate

*Federal tax credit that reduces the federal income tax liability by up to $18,000 over the loan life

*Variety of loan options to choose from, including FHA, Conventional, VA and USDAVeterans (need not be first-time homebuyers) and active military personnel, reservists and Illinois National Guard members (must be first-time homebuyers) are eligible for this program.

The Midlothian Veterans' Committee is hosting an informational session on this program on Monday, September 16, 2013 at 7 p.m. in the Village Hall Chambers. Keith Pryor, Assistant Director of Homeownership Programs of the Illinois Housing Development Authority, will speak about this program

All veterans and active military personnel are invited to attend to find out how this program could benefit you and your family. For further information, contact Karen Kreis at 708-389-0200

34th Annual Scandinavian Day Festival

SCANDINAVIAN PARK ASS'N
VASA PARK

Come celebrate our 34th year and the culture, heritage & traditions of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway & Sweden

Sunday, September 8, 2013
9:00 am – 6:00 pm
Vasa Park, Route 31, South Elgin

Church Service
Free Pony Rides
Special Exhibits
ScandinavianVendors
Food & Baked Goods

Entertainment by: *ABBA Salute*
Swedish American Children's Choir
Nordic Folk Dancers of Chicago * Bjornson Male Chorus
Leikarringen Heimhug Norwegian Folk Dancers

Donation: Adults $10, Children 12 & under Free
Free Parking – Rain or Shine

Visit our Website for News on our 2013 Events!

Birthdays * Anniversaries * Weddings * Reunions * Graduations * Festivals * Picnics * Concerts
Call 847-695-6720 or E-mail vasaparkil@yahoo.com for Reservations
Websites: www.vasaparkil.com and www.scandinaviandayil.com

Out and About with Kelly White

Alsip

Alsip Park District will be hosting their Farmers Market every Tuesday from now through October 8th from 3:00 p.m until 7:00 p.m at the Apollo Recreation Center Parking Lot, 12521 South Kostner Avenue, with a live band on September 10th

Blue Island

Movies in the Park featuring the movie, Monsters, Inc. will take place on Saturday, September 7th at dusk (rain date is September 14th) at Fr. Sylvester Field, 12828 S. Wood Street.

Mexico's Independence Celebration sponsored by the Blue Island Public Library will take place on Tuesday, September 10th at 6:00 p.m at Christ Memorial Church, 2440 York Street. This family celebration features 'The Cry of Freedom;' a tribute to World War II's "Aztec Eagles." Refreshments will be served

Crestwood

The Crestwood Recreation Board would like to invite the community to a Movie in the Park on Friday, September 6th at Walker Park, 139th and Laramie. Movie start time will be at dusk. Approximately: 7:20 p.m.

Midlothian

Weekly story times at the Midlothian Public Library, 14701 S. Kenton Avenue, begin on Tuesday, September 3rd. Call or visit the library's website for dates, times and to register. For more information please call 708-535-2027 or www.midlothianlibrary.org

Saturday, September 7th, Midlothian Public Library, 14701 S. Kenton Avenue will host Make It, Take It from 11:00 a.m until 11:30 a.m. This program is free and no registration is required. The program is geared to children 3-7 years, but all ages are welcome to join the fun. For more information please call 708-535-2027 or go to www.midlothianlibrary.org.

Two local square dance clubs, Swing'n Sugar Squares and Country Bumpkins, invite you to two free classes of square dance lessons, at Central Park School, 3621 151st Street, four blocks east of Pulaski Avenue (Crawford Ave.) on 151st Street. The classes will be on Wednesday nights 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m beginning on September 11th. The first two free lessons September 11th and 18th for $5.00 a lesson

Oak Forest

The Acorn Public Library District is hosting "The Musical Flea Market: Trifles and Treasures from Our Melodious Past" on Saturday, September 21st at 2:00 p.m. Whether its Delta blues or J. S. Bach, ragtime or Renaissance, Irish or the Brazilian, Ray has built an amazing repertoire of music that is familiar, intriguing and fun. Call the library at (708)-687-3700 to register for this free concert

The Oak Forest Farmers Market is held every Tuesday through October 8th 3:00 p.m. at the Central Park Building

Tinley Park

Very Funny Magic with Dennis DeBondt will take place at the Tinley Park Library, 7851 Timber Drive, on Saturday, September 7th from 10:30 a.m. until 11:15 a.m. The self-proclaimed Sears Tower of Magic will amuse and amaze adults and kids alike with his unique blend of comedy and magic. For more information please contact the library at 708-532-0160

Stories in the Park will take place on September 13th at 7:00 p.m. at the Recreation Center Bandshell, 8125 W. 171st Street. Bring your blankets and settle in for a great evening of family entertainment featuring the hilarious antics of Madcap Productions Puppet Theatre. This event is free for all ages.

Visit the Farmers Market from 7:00 a.m. to noon Saturdays through October for the best selection of fresh fruits, vegetables, flowers and much more. It is held in downtown Zabrocki Plaza, 17375 Oak Park Avenue

Worth

Family Fall Fest Weekend takes place on October 4th and 5th at the Worth Park District, 11500 South Beloit Avenue, with two great additions to this activity filled festival.

At the Worth Farmers and Flea Market, located at 110th and Depot Street, residents can find many treasures including: produce, baked goods, household items and more! The next Community Market is scheduled for September 15th from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., for more information please call 708-508-4601.

Volunteer to work behind the scenes at the Worth Park District's annual haunted house. The event begins on October 11th and runs through Halloween weekend. Contact Athletics Supervisor, Kara Jelderks at 708-448-7080 for more information

Bridgeview

The all new Bridgeview Book Club will hold its first meeting the end of September. If you would like to attend an evening session it will be on Tuesday, September 24th at 7:00 p.m. or a daytime session scheduled for 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, September 25th. Our first book selection is "Garden Spells" by Sarah Addison Allen. You may pick up your copy at the library anytime after September 3. For more information or to sign up please call the library at 708-458-2880 ext 105

Burbank

Come to the Prairie Trails Library, 8449 Moody Avenue, on Monday, September 16th at 4:00 p.m. and celebrate Hispanic Heritage month by playing Mexican bingo! In this different way of playing bingo, you'll definitely learn some Spanish along the way. Come play and win some fun prizes. For more information please contact the library at 708-430-3688.

Justice

Are you over 55 years of age and are interested in being active? If so, you can register the Justice Park District's new Club Active. Members will enjoy educational outings, fun activities and holiday socials with fellow community adults.

Members will also have exclusive offers for free trips and other recreational activities offered by JPD throughout the year. To join you must be at least 55 years of age and register by filling out a form at Justice Community Center on 7747 South Oak Grove Avenue, or call 708-458-1370 for a mailed copy.

Evergreen Park

St. Bernadette Rib Fest will take place on September 17th from 4:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. at St. Bernadette Parish, 9311 S. Francisco Avenue. If you would like additional information or are interested in cooking, please contact Arlene Baumann at 708-422-6429 or arlenebaumann@comcast.net or Andrea Gertonson at 773-680-4103 or mamagerto@yahoo.com

Hickory Hills

A bus trip departing from Krueger Park, 9100 South 88th Avenue, will head to the Geico 400, a Nascar Sprint Cup series stock car race being held on Sunday, September 15th at Chicago Speedway in Joliet on September 15th. Transportation only is $27 and tickets with transportation are $110. The bus departs at 9:30 a.m. and returns at 5:30 p.m., for more information please contact the Hickory Hills Recreation Director at 708-599-7337.

Private dance lessons are available at the Hickory Hills Park District, 8047 W. 91st Place, $35/hour for residents and $40/hour for non-residents. Please call 708-598-1233 for dates and times available.

Oak Lawn

The annual Fall on the Green Festival is held the weekend after Labor Day. This event takes place on the Village Green located at 95th Street and Cook Avenue. There is no charge for admission, parking or rides.

Orland Park

Orland Chateau, 14500 S. La Grange Road, will be hosting a Pasta Extravaganza/Night at the Races on October 16th from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Contact Karen Moran to purchase tickets, to name a horse, or to sponsor a race at 708-349-7878.

The Orland Park Civic Center Farmers Market, 14750 Ravinia Ave., offers over 30 vendors offer a variety of fresh produce, flowers, plants, pasta, bakery items, gourmet spices, jewelry, home and garden items, purses, beauty products, and more.

Chicago Ridge

The Friends of the Chicago Ridge Public Library, 10400 S. Oxford, will hold their annual Book Sale from September 6th through September 8th. Friday, September 6th and Saturday, September 7th hours are from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. and on Sunday, September 8th from 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. is "Bag" day, stuff as many books as you can in a bag for only $2.00; bags are provided.

The Our Lady of the Ridge Knights of Columbus chapter will present its summer flea market the second Sunday of every month from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the church, 108th Street and Ridgeland Ave. in Chicago Ridge. Markets will be held on September 14th and October 12th.

Palos Hills

The Palos Hills Community Resource and Recreation Department, 8455 West 103rd Street, will take a trip to Shipshewana, an Indiana Amish community, flea market and historical downtown shopping area on Tuesday, September 24th, and coach transportation is $30 per person. For more information please call 708-430-4500.

Children can get The Museum Adventure Pass from the Green Hills Public Library, 8611 W. 103rd Street. This pass allows free entry into many museums in the area including: Brookfield Zoo, Chicago Botanic Garden, Oak Lawn Children's Museum and more!

Come out to stargaze at Moraine Valley Community Center as it hosts its series of telescope open viewing nights this summer. All open viewings are held at the telescope dome on the G. Jack Bradley Observation Deck, located on the west side of the college's Nature Study Area, off Kean Avenue near 107th St. Dates and times for this season's open viewings include the following Fridays: September 13th at 7:15 p.m. and October 11th at 6:30 p.m.

Palos Park

Children ages 3 and up are invited to a special family story time at the Palos Park Public Library, 12330 Forest Glen Blvd., on Saturday, September 7th at 11:00 a.m. for "Shake it up". Children will also create shakers to use with songs, etc. Please register by calling the library at 708-448-1530.

Children of all ages and their families are invited to Saturday Morning Matinee on September 14th at 11:00 a.m. at the Palos Park Public Library, 12330 Forest Glen Blvd. Light refreshments will be served.

The Autumn in the Park Festival is being expanded to include Friday night musical entertainment, food and spirits for more information please visit http://palospark.org/AutumninPalosPark/.

Palos Heights

Southwest Chicago Christian School is holding a Fall/Winter Children's Clothing and Equipment Resale on Saturday, October 5th from 8:30 a.m. until noon in the gym at their Oak Lawn campus (10110 S. Central Ave.). Sellers may register at the Tinley Park campus (17171 South 84th Avenue) on Tuesday September 10th, from 5:00 p.m. until 6:45 p.m. and at the Oak Lawn campus on Thursday, September 12th, from 5:00 p.m. until 6:45 p.m. Please call the school office at 708-636-8550 to find out how to register by phone.

Every Wednesday through October 9th, the City of Palos Heights will be hosting a Farmers Market at 13317 S. Harlem Avenue from 7:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

25 Local Police and Fire Departments gave their teams an opportunity to exercise together with a total of 370 people in a Full Scale Execise at Oak Lawn Community High School.

Oak Lawn hosts Full Scale Exercise

by Kelly White

The Village of Oak Lawn in conjunction with Oak Lawn Community High School and Advocate Christ Medical Center hosted a Full Scale Exercise on Sunday, Aug. 25th from 8:00 a.m. until 1:15 p.m. at Oak Lawn Community High School, 9400 Southwest Hwy.

The exercise was designed test response capabilities to a Mass Casualty/Active Shooter Event. First Responders from over 25 local Police and Fire Departments along with representatives from local hospitals, Cook County, State and Federal Agencies participated in this drill, including: fire/EMS responders from Alsip, Bedford, Bridgeview, Burbank, Central Stickney, Chicago Ridge, Evergreen Park, Hometown, North Palos, Oak Forest, Oak Lawn, Orland Park, Palos Heights, Palos Park, Roberts Park and Summit, along with police responders from Alsip, Bridgeview, Burbank, Chicago Ridge, Evergreen Park and Oak Lawn, and hospital and other agency responders from Advocate Christ Medical Center, Advocate Good Sam Hospital, Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center, Loyola, Region VII Hospitals, Chicago Red Cross, Cook County Medical Examiner, Oak Lawn Community High School, Oak Lawn 911 Center, Training Command, Great Lakes Naval and Training Center.

Headed by Cmdr. Arthur L. Clark from the Oak Lawn Police Department, Coordinator for the Oak Lawn Emergency Management Agency, a total of Over 370 people from over 35 agencies were involved in the Full Scale Exercise.

"This exercise allows First Responders an opportunity to work together in a realistic setting with all the equipment and vehicles that would be needed in a large scale disaster," Cmdr. Clark stated.

The Full Scale Exercise tested the capabilities of First Responders to respond to the immediate and long term implications of a Mass Casualty/ Active Shooter event and local hospitals ability to surge and treat Mass Trauma victims. This exercise is part the First Responders' ongoing commitment to Community Preparedness and School Safety. This was one of the largest Multi-Agency Events occurring in the state prior to the start of the new school season.

Police and fire officials were broken into teams to have a chance to experience a real-life stimulated high school shooting, with the help of Oak Lawn Community High School students, playing both live and injured or dead victims in the scenario. Police and fire officials were able to talk with the students, as they explained how and when the stimulated shooting took place, where the shooter ran to and indications on how to find him, using frightened tone of voices and screaming as if a real-life shooting had just occurred.

The Full Scale Exercise began with a frightened student making a flustered stimulated 911 call to the Oak Lawn Police Department to announce a shooting had just occurred in the Oak Lawn Community High School gym. Within real time minutes, the hallways were flooded with police and fire department officials.

"This was the first Full Scale Exercise at Oak Lawn High School," Cmdr. Clark explained. "We have held other Full Scale exercises in Oak Lawn, most recently in 2010, when we participated in Prairie North. Oak Lawn High School was selected because of it's size. It is considered a Large Venue, meaning the number of people and the size of the physical plant, and it was available on the date. The school was kind enough to support this event."

If a shooting were to ever take place at a high school, such as Oak Lawn Community High School, the school would remain on lockdown until all injured students, staff and faculty members were cared for, and the shooter was taken into custody.

Cmdr. Clark added the Oak Lawn Police Department works closely with all Oak Lawn Schools during the school year to promote school safety through a number of different programs, along with this year's Full Scale Exercise.

St. Laurence High School Mothers' Club

All Dabber Super Bingo

Total Payout $2250

Sunday, October 6, 2013

St. Laurence High School
5556 W. 77th Street, Burbank (77th & Central Ave)
Entrance and Parking at the North end of the building
Tickets $20.00 - $1 Door Card

Doors Open 12:00 noon, Games begin at 2:00pm.

Pull Tabs * Great Food * Bake Sale * Free Coffee
Plenty of parking

For tickets or more details, call Mothers' Club
708-458-6900 ext 411 or email momsclub@stlaurence.com
Mark your payment envelope: Mothers Club Super Bingo
Limited tickets available - Cash only at the door

Evergreen Park announces library programs and hours

The following are just a few programs submitted by the Library's Public Relations person sending information to us regarding their September and October programs for adults and children. Please check their brochure or library at 9400 South Troy or call 708-422-8522 for further information.

"The Promised Land" Movie Matinee

On Thursday, September 13 at 10:30 am, adults are invited to the Evergreen Park Public Library, 9400 S. Troy to watch "The Promised Land" [R] on our big screen. Bring your own snack, coffee is provided.

My First Book Club

Kindergarten-Grade 1 are invited to a meeting of My First Book Club on Friday, September 13 at 3:30 pm at the Evergreen Park Public Library, 9400 S. Troy. Participants will read Rabbit & Robot: The Sleepover by Cece Bell. The book club meeting includes a discussion of the book, activities, and other stories. Copies of the book selection will be available at the Circulation desk one month prior to the discussion. Registration required.

You Don't Know Squash with Chef Kate.

Evergreen Park Public Library, 9400 S. Troy will host a culinary program for adults on Tuesday, September 17 at 6:30 pm. Chef Kate will teach you to take advantage of fall's bountiful harvest of squash and make it your star ingredient! Samples to taste and copies of her recipes are provided. Registration and a $3.00 tasting fee are required. The class is limited to 60 participants. Registration required.

Food from the Tropics

Evergreen Park Public Library, 9400 S. Troy offers a culinary program for grades 6-12 on Thursday, September 19 at 6:30 pm. Chef Kate Bradley will take teens on a culinary tour of the tropics. Copies of her recipes will be provided as well as samples to taste. Registration required.

Monday Movie Night at the library

On Monday, September 30 at the Evergreen Park Public Library, 9400 South Troy, grade 5 and under are invited to watch Epic [PG] on our big screen. Showtime begins at 6:00 p.m. and kids may bring their own snack.

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Moments you'll cherish.
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Discover even more things to love about Smith Village.
Visit smithvillage.org or call (773) 474-7303 for a FREE Information Kit!

Pictured left to right: Museum President, David Peterson, Jr.; Founder, Dr. Lyn Hughes; Dr Lionel Kimble; Pat Beardon; Dr. Christopher Reed. Supporters for a Pullman National Park. Photo by Toby Gold

A. Philip Randolph Pullman Porter Museum

by Annette Dixon

Pullman Porters had always been of interest to me in my youth. Railroad traveling was special, and the first person you would meet would be a porter. They would have a big smile and make you feel so important to be riding on that train.

Before Amtrack, and in the early 19th century between the years of 1869 though 1968, the African American railroad passenger train employee, became a tradition within the American scene. By 1920's, a peak decade for the railroads, 20,224 African Americans were working as Pullman Porters and train personnel. At that time this was the largest category of black labor in the United States and Canada.

The Pullman Porters organized the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters in 1925. The BSCP was the very first African American labor union to sign a collective bargaining agreement with a major U.S. Corporation.

A. Philip Randolph was the determined, dedicated and articulate president of this union who fought to improve the working conditions and pay for the Pullman Porters.

The same A. Philip Randolph was the person who first planned a March on Washington in 1941 to protest government hiring practises that were excluded to African Americans from federal employment and federal contracts. A change took place when President Roosevelt signed an Executive Order 8802, which banned discrimination in the federal government and defense industries in June, 1941.

Again in 1963, as the result of the goundwork laid 22 years earlier for the 1941 March on Washington, A. Philip Randolph was prepared for the leadership role he held in the 1963 March on Washington.

The Pullman Porter museum founded in 1995 by Dr. Lyn Hughes, is a 501 (c) 3 institution. The facility is named after men who made history. Asa Philip Randolph and Pullman Porters who made up the membership of the Brotherhood Of Sleeping Car Porters. APRPPM is not a government funded institution and is operated solely by memberships, fund-raising initiatives, and travel exhibition and various enterpreneurial endeavors.

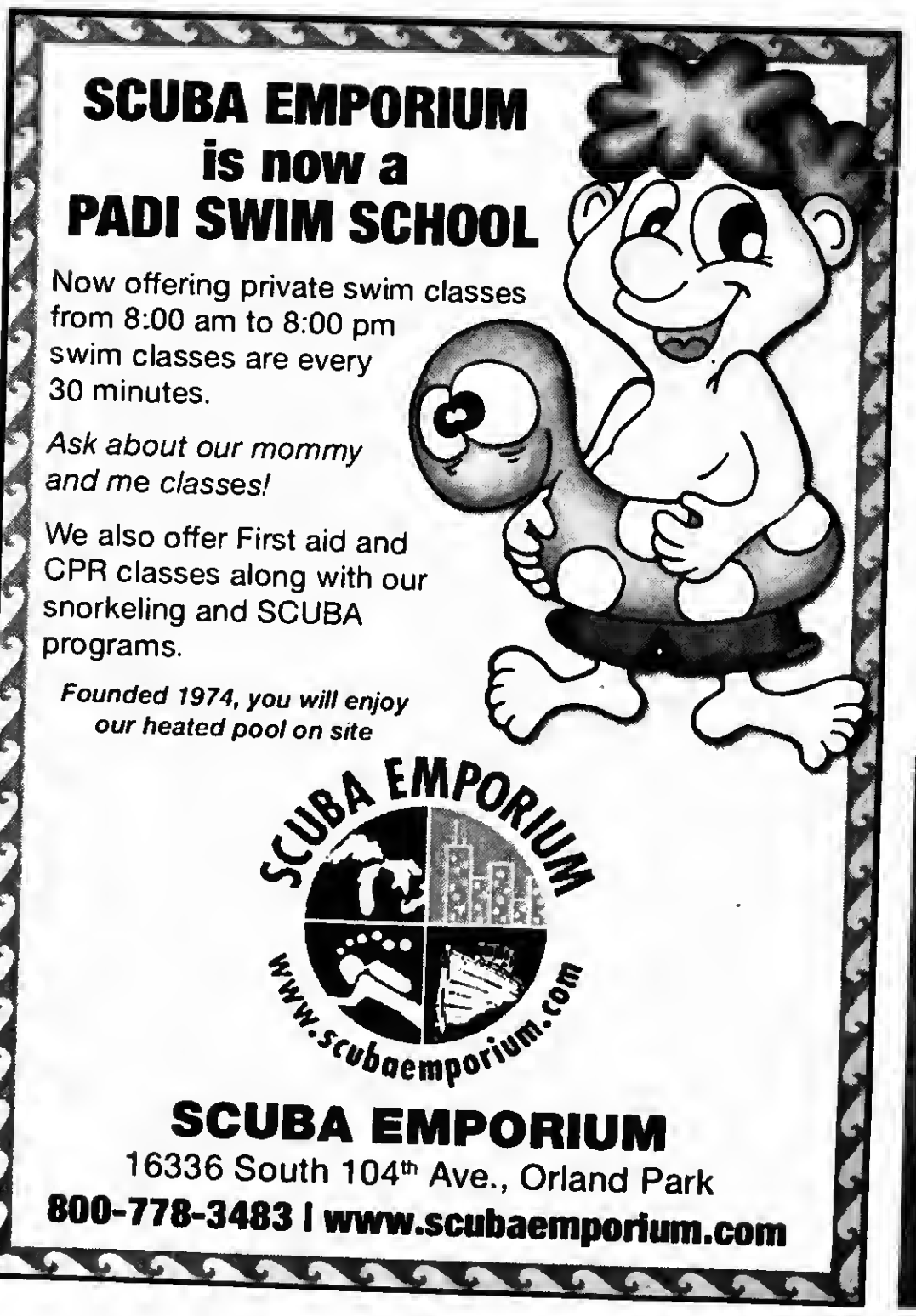
There are ways you can be entertained and find out more about the history of this movement. There is a movie title 10,000 Men March and starting September 14, a play at Goodman Theater titled Pullman Porter Blues or google Pullman Porters Museum.

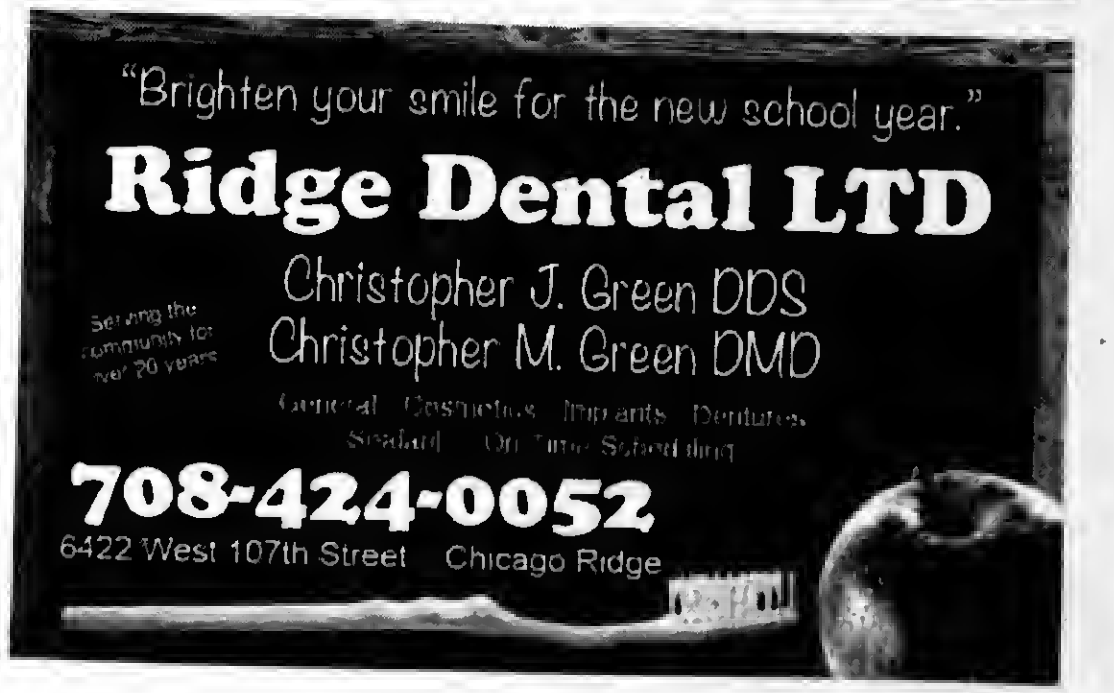
The A.Philip Randolph Pullman Porter Museum celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the 1963 March on Washington. It was my honor to be at the museum to hear the honored guests speak about A. Philip Randolph and a history covering the events of Martin Luther King and the history prior to 1963 and following the history of the African American and the struggles that occurred after the March of 1963.

The Historic Pullman area is not only on 111th but surprisingly enough, also on 104th and Maryland, near the industries where Pullman employes made the parts for the railroad cars. Also within several blocks are the row houses, also built by Pullman for the white employees.

For information call 773-928-3935 or visit www.APhilipRandolphMuseum.com

Their location of the museum is quite impressive, with documented collections of pictures, letters and books of the Porters.





Blue Island promotes various events

Viva Mexico! Mexico's Independence Celebration

Sponsored by the Blue Island Public Library, this family celebration features 'The Cry of Freedom;' a tribute to World War II's "Aztec Eagles," an unheralded unit of Mexican Fighter Pilots presented by Antonio Delgado, Ph.d; vocalist Eugenio Gil and the Ballet Folklórico of Back of the Yards Neighborhood Council. Refreshments will be served. When: Tuesday, September 10, 6:00 p.m.Where: Christ Memorial Church, 2440 York St.

Movies in the Park: Monsters, Inc

Calumet Township invites you to bring a lawn chair or a blanket and enjoy an evening under the stars. Bring snacks or enjoy a treat from the concession stand. When: Saturday, September 7, dusk (rain date is September 14) Where: Fr. Sylvester Field, 12828 S. Wood St.

Architectural Walking Tour

This BI Historical Society walking tour begins at the Masonic Temple and continues on foot for a mile or so. Refreshments will be served. Call 708-371-8546. When: Sunday, September 15, 1:00 p.m., $10 Where: Masonic Temple, 12757 S. Western Avenue

Live music & theatre Dinner Show

Rockin' oldies tribute artist Mike Valentine & The Mike Valentine Singers perform songs of Elvis, Sinatra, Dean Martin and many more. Also featuring Cher tribute artist Miss Ginger.When: Friday, Sept. 20, 7 - 10 p.m.Where: The Tuscan Grill, 13000 S. Western Ave., 708-385-1000

Brock McGuire Band Part of the World Music

Festival Chicago 2013, the acclaimed Brock McGuire Band performs a concert of traditional and nontraditional Irish music with their signature accordion and fiddle.When: Saturday, Sept. 21, 8 p.m.Where: Beverly Arts Center, 2407 W. 111th St., Chicago, 773-445-3838x200

Girls Bunco Bash

$20 includes games (raffles and 50/50 split the pot) and lunch, cash bar When: Sunday, September 29. Lunch 12:30 -1:30 p.m., games at 2:00 Where: Eagles Bowl, 2427 Grove Street, 708-388-9739

Art Vanderpoel Art Association fall classes

* Saturday Drawing Class - Grades 4-8, begins September 14, call Mary Lenzini at 773-233-7248.

* Stained Glass with Jim Bremer, call 773-259-8704

* Oil and Acrylic Painting - Multilevel, call Didier Nolet at 773-470-7833 Where: Ridge Park Field House, 9600 S. Longwood Dr., Chicago

B2B/legislative Illinois Comptroller Judy Baar Topinka

The Chicago Southland Chamber of Commerce presents Illinois Comptroller, Judy Baar Topinka. When: Monday, September 9, 11:30 am. - 1 p.m., $35/$45 Where: Holiday Inn Hotel & Tinley Park Convention Center, 18451 Convention Center Drive

Breakfast with your Legislators

This annual event offers an opportunity to find out what our elected officials are up to. Call BAPA at 773-233-3100 to register. When: Friday, October 11, 7:30 am., $20/$30 Where: Saint Xavier University, Butler Reception Room, 3700 W. 103rd St.

Area Garage and Better Book Sale

Gently used items (no clothes) and books being accepted as donations. When: October 11 - 12, 9 - 3: October 13, 11 - 3 Where: Ridge Historical Society, 10621 S. Seeley Ave., Chicago, 773/881-1675

Bridges & Blues Toronzo Cannon

This fall, the bridges will hum with a new sound: shovels in the ground along the Cal-Sag Trail. Join us in our fundraising celebration to complete this 26-mile trail. October 19, 6 - 11 p.m.Where: Moraine Valley Community College, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills, Bldg. M

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Midlothian Park District announces a dance for preteens

Come join us for great music, dancing, yummy concessions, and games at the Teen Dances. A DJ will be providing the music for you to dance the night away. Come in and enjoy dancing to the latest songs, hanging out with friends, and playing video games.

Buy your ticket early and get into the dance before everyone else and save $1.00. You will not be able to leave until 9:00 PM, unless a parent comes in and picks you up. 7:00 - 9:00 PM.

This dance is for 5th - 8th grade, there is a savings if you buy in advance for $5.00 or it will cost $6.00 at the door. The address is 14500 South Kostner Ave., Midlothian, IL, or call 708-371-6191, visit the website at info@midlothianparkdistrict.org for more information.

Come Hear "ABBA SALUTE" at Scandinavian Day on Sunday, September 8, 2013

Scandinavian Park, Inc. NFP, South Elgin, IL
Celebrates 60th Anniversary of Vasa Park in 2013

Vasa Park in South Elgin, Illinois celebrates its 60th anniversary in 2013 and you're invited to the biggest event of the year at the park, SCANDINAVIAN DAY!

Vasa Park, 35W217 IL Route 31, South Elgin, IL 60177, is the home of the 34th Annual Scandinavian Day Festival, planned for Sunday, September 8, 2013 from 9 a.m. until 6 PM, please note the festival will last one hour longer this year due to special entertainment by ABBA SALUTE, one of the area's most popular tribute bands.

Program Schedule for 34th Annual Scandinavian Day Festival at Vasa Park in South Elgin, IL

PAVILION: 10 am – 10:30 am Church Service
o David Foster – Lay Leader Irving Park UMC and Joni Shaw – Musician

MAIN STAGE, 11:00 am Opening Ceremony
Welcome
o Judy Seifert – Scandinavian Park, Inc. NFP President
o Joy Thorbjornsen-Coates – Festival Chairperson
o Lynn Sove Maxson – Master of Ceremonies
o Flags of the Nations, National Anthems and Invocation

12:45 PM – 1:15 PM: The Nordic Folk Dancers of Chicago

1:45 PM – 2:05 PM Swedish American Children's Choir - Marguerite Karl – Artistic Director

PAVILION 2:10 PM -2:40 PM. Festival Folk Dance Class! The Nordic Folk Dancers of Chicago

One doesn't need to be Scandinavian .. just as long as you like having a good time and wish to learn to dance."

MAIN STAGE 2:45 PM – 3:15 PM: Leikarringen Hemhug - Norwegian Folk Dancers of Chicago

3:20 PM – 3:40 PM: Bjornson Male Chorus

4:15 PM. ABBA SALUTE (Please note the festival will stay open one hour longer this year until 6 PM)

Historic 25-acre Vasa Park is located along the Fox River on Route 31 in South Elgin, Illinois, just 7 miles south of the I-90 Northwest Tollway and 5 miles north of IL Rt. 64 North Avenue. Come shop, dine, visit and learn about the culture: heritage and traditions of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden.

DONATION: $10 for Adults. Children 12 and under free, plus FREE PARKING. The event is held rain or shine.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call the Park Hotline 847-695-6720 vasaparkil@yahoo.com

SEE OUR NEW WEBSITES FOR 2013: www.vasaparkil.com and www.scandinaviandayil.com

Little Company of Mary Offers Adult Grief Support Program

New Fall Session Starts in October

Little Company of Mary Hospital and Health Care Centers is now accepting registrations for the adult grief support program, Living: When a Loved One Has Died. The group offers supportive and skilled companionship for those who are mourning the death of their loved one.

This adult bereavement program originated in 1982 and has been privileged to support hundreds of people in the community. The program was created to offer a compassionate and respectful atmosphere to guide the bereaved at a most difficult time in their life. "The depth of pain after the death of a loved one is something disconcerting and very frightening to anyone grieving," said Peg Schneider, Chaplain in the Pastoral Care Department, and co-coordinator of Heart Connection and Bereavement Services at Little Company of Mary. "Coming to a support group and being with others who are mourning the death of a loved one of similar circumstances is not only helpful, but contributes to the healing and lessening of pain."

The fall session of Living: When a Loved One Has Died begins on Wednesday, October 2nd from 7:30-9:30 p.m. in the Mary Potter Pavilion, located at 2850 W. 95th St. Evergreen Park, IL 60805. Preregistration is required. Group sessions continue for seven consecutive weeks.

For further information or to register for any of the bereavement programs offered at Little Company of Mary, please call co-coordinators of bereavement services, Peg Schneider, Chaplain or Arlene Dulski, Counselor at 708.229.5484.

SXU to host 13th Annual Cougar 5k Run/Walk during 2013 Homecoming celebration

~Race is scheduled for Sat., Oct. 5~

Saint Xavier University will host the 13th Annual Cougar 5K Run/Walk during its 2013 Homecoming Week at 9 a.m. on Sat. Oct. 5. The race begins and ends at SXU's Chicago campus, 3700 W. 103rd St. and travels through Evergreen Park.

Preregistration is $30 for runners/walkers and $25 for SXU students. Prices increase to $35 for runners/walkers and $30 for SXU students from Mon., Sept. 30 to Fri., Oct. 4. On race day, registration is $40 for runners/walkers and $35 for SXU students. The Cougar 5K is bringing back the family rate which costs $75 for two adults and one child age 17 or under from the same immediate family. Each additional child is $20. Family rate registration is not available on race day. Visit www.sxu.edu, keyword: cougar 5k to register.

All participants will receive a white cotton long-sleeve Cougar 5K shirt. Participants that register before Sun., Sept. 15 have the option to purchase a black dry-tech long-sleeve Cougar 5K shirt for an additional $5 instead of the white cotton shirt. Exclusive Cougar 5K charcoal grey quarter-zip jackets also are on sale for $30 through the online registration form or in the Shannon Center at the Chicago campus.

New this year, free flu vaccinations will be provided following the race. Flu vaccinations are provided by Health4Chicago in partnership with the Saint Xavier University Health Center and School of Nursing. Health4Chicago provides on-site immunization services throughout the Chicago region, minimizing the impact of vaccine-preventable diseases and promoting a healthy school community.

Additionally, all participants will receive a ticket to the Homecoming Football game at 5 PM., where they can watch the defending NAIA National Champion Cougars take on Grand View University (Iowa). Tickets can be picked up at the Gear Check area between 7 a.m. and 11 a.m. on race day. Participants also can enjoy refreshments, massages, stretching, blood pressure checks, free flu vaccinations, children's activities, and pictures with SXU's cougar mascot.

Cougar 5K sponsors include Mid-American Group, Gallagher Investments, Greenwood Chiropractic, Go Promotions, Core Fitness and Physical Therapy, Jimmy Johns of Evergreen Park, Running for Kicks, City Beverage, Accelerated Rehab, Sports and Ortho, WishFit, Core Fitness and Physical Therapy, Shannon Center Member, Jackson Capital, Chiro One, Pizza Man, Gilhooley's Grande Saloon, Aquafina, McDonalds, Beverly Review, Calabria Imports, Muscle Milk, Health4Chicago, Pure Indoor Cycling and the Saint Xavier University National Alumni Association.

For more information to register, visit the Cougar 5K Run/Walk website at www.sxu.edu, keyword: cougar 5k or (773) 298-3592.

Chicago Philharmonic celebrates Centennial of RITE OF SPRING

With the Agnieszka Laska Dancers

The Chicago Philharmonic opens its 2013-2014 season "The Romantic Impulse" with a Sunday evening concert titled Twilight of the Romantics on September 29 at 7 p.m. at Pick-Staiger Hall in Evanston. Artistic Director Scott Speck will lead the Chicago Philharmonic through the Romantic era beginning with Strauss' thrilling Don Juan. Soloist Kuang-Hao Huang will perform the rarely heard, one-movement Piano Concerto No. 3 of Pyotr Ilyrich Tchaikovsky. Discover this lesser-known masterwork of one of the world's most beloved composers. The orchestra will then celebrate the centennial of Igor Stravinsky's landmark ballet The Rite of Spring which changed the history of music forever.

As a special treat for the audience, the Agnieszka Laska Dancers, a ground-breaking modern dance troupe from Oregon, will pay tribute to the centennial by performing selected scenes from the original choreography of The Rite of Spring. The new season offers an exciting new twist for our audience. Each concert features a surprise component that incorporates a different art form.

This season also marks the beginning of a new era, as we welcome Scott Speck as the Chicago Philharmonic's new Artistic Director. Scott Speck, also Music Director of the Joffrey Ballet, brings his experience and sensibilities to our orchestra's programming.

The concert takes place at Pick-Staiger Hall, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. Tickets: $25-$75. Visit www.chicagophilharmonic.org or contact the ticket hotline at 866.811.4111.

Cheryl L. West's Pullman Porter Blues arrives in Chicago September 14

The Great Migration. The March on Washington. Change started with the Pullman porter. Goodman Theatre hosts the Chicago premiere production of Pullman Porter Blues, Cheryl L. West's "refreshingly contemporary" (Washingtonian) play about three generations of African American Pullman porters on the cusp of unionization in the 1930s.

Director Chuck Smith, one of the "best directors in the local theater scene in Chicago" (CBS Chicago), marks his 20th anniversary, and 20th production at the Goodman with this show in the city of the Pullman Company's origin. It was the porters aboard Pullman rail cars, like the three generations of Sykes men in the play, who tossed copies of the Chicago Defender from the trains and ushered in the Great Migration, the movement of six million African Americans from the rural Southern United States to the Northeast, Midwest and West that lasted up until the 1960s.

A. Philip Randolph, who founded the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters union, served as one of the key organizers of the 1963 March on Washington. As previously announced, the cast aboard the "cargo of sorrows and struggles as authentic as the tangy music" (The Seattle Times) includes Tony Award winner Cleavant Derricks, Tony Award nominee Larry Marshall, and newcomer Tosin Morohunfola as Sylvester, Monroe and Cephas Sykes, respectively; Chicago stage favorites E. Faye Butler and Francis Guinan and newcomer Claire Kander; and musicians Jmichael, Anderson Edwards, Chic Street Man and Senuwell Smith. Pullman Porter Blues runs September 14 through October 20 in the Albert Theatre.

Tickets($25 - $75; are available at GoodmanTheatre.org/Pullman, by phone at 312.443.3800 or at the box office (170 North Dearborn).

Matt Brumlow as "Hank Williams".

Lost Highway describes Hank Williams life

Producing Artistic Director Gwendolyn Whiteside and American Blues Theater, Chicago's second oldest Equity ensemble, are proud to announce the first production in American Blues Theater's "Legends and Legacies" season, Hank Williams: Lost Highway, by Randal Myler and Mark Harelik, directed by Damon Kiely, music director Malcolm Ruhl and starring Matt Brumlow as "Hank Williams." August 30 through October 6, at the Greenhouse Theater Center's Downstage Mainstage Theater, 2257 N. Lincoln Ave.Tickets are on sale now at 773.404.7336 or americanbluestheater.com.

Hank Williams: Lost Highway is the musical biography of one America's legendary singer-songwriters. The tribute chronicles Williams' rise from humble beginnings in Louisiana to his triumphs on the Grand Ole Opry stage and becoming one of the great innovators of American music to his self-destruction at the age of twenty-nine. Hank Williams: Lost Highway includes more than 20 Williams' classics, including "I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry," "Move It on Over," "Hey, Good Lookin'" and "Jambalaya." The production has been hailed as "A profound emotional journey...forceful, clear-eyed, moving, impressive!" by Rolling Stone and "The best example of a musician's bio put on stage that I've seen!" by The New York Post.

The Hank Williams: Lost Highway production team includes American Blues Ensemble members Michael Mahler, associate music director and Sarah E. Ross, costumes design with Jackie and Rick Penrod, scenic design: Nick Belley, lighting design: Grant Sabin and Arianna Soloway, co-properties design, and Rick Sims, sound design

The Ruth Page Center for the Arts presents Victor Alexander's Line of Sighs

Ruth Page Center for the Arts with The Chicago Dancemakers Forum (CDF) present Victor Alexander's Line Of Sighs Thursday, Sept. 5 through Sunday, Sept 8 at the Ruth Page Center for the Arts, 1016 N. Dearborn St. Included in Dance Magazine's prestigious "25 to Watch in 2013" list. Alexander's performance marks the culmination of his year-long choreographic work with the Dancemakers Forum Lab Artists Program. Tickets to Line of Sighs are $20 or $15 for students/seniors. Saturday, Sept. 7 performance and post-performance reception tickets to benefit the American Cancer Society are $50. To purchase tickets visit http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/435654 and for more information visit www.ruthpage.org or call 312.337.6543.

Here comes Dolly everyone loves

HELLO, DOLLY is previewing October 17, opening October 24 at 8 p.m., and running through January 5, 2014. HELLO, DOLLY! stars Tony Award winner Karen Ziemba as "Dolly Levi."

She received the Tony Award, the Drama Desk Award, and the Outer Critics Circle Award for her performanec in Lincoln Center Theatre's Contact.

Ziemba also received Tony Award nominations for her roles in Steel Pier, Never Gonna Dance, and Curtains and the Drama Desk Award for And the World Goes 'Round, as well as the Outer Critics Circle Awards for both Never Gonna Dance and Curtains.

She has starred in productions at The New York City Opera, Carnegie Hall for PBS' Great Performances, and NY City Center Encores. Other Broadway roles include "Diana Morales" in A Chorus Line, "Peggy Sawyer" in the original production of 42nd Street, "Polly Baker" in Crazy for You, and "Roxie Hart" in Chicago

The performance schedule for HELLO, DOLLY! is as follows: Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. ($35), Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. ($35) and 8 p.m. ($45), Fridays at 8 p.m. ($49), Saturdays at 5 p.m. ($49), and 8:30 p.m. ($49), and Sundays at 2 p.m. ($49), and 6 p.m. ($45)

Student group tickets start as low as $30 and Senior Citizens start at $32 for matinees and $47 for a matinee luncheon package

Call soon for reservations, and call the Drury Lane Theatre box office at 630.530.0111, it may be easier to call TicketMaster at 800.745.3000 or visit www.drurylane.com

Chicago Shakespeare Theater Announces OpeningProduction of Cyrano de Bergerac

Shakespeare Theater (CST) announced casting for Cyrano de Bergerac, launching the Theater's 2013-2014 Season. CST's new production of Edmond Rostand's timeless classic, adapted and translated by Anthony Burgess, marks the return to CST of director Penny Metropulos and film and stage actor Harry Groener, the duo behind the Theater's award-winning 2011 production of The Madness of George III. Featuring some of the most romantic and witty verse written for the stage, Cyrano de Bergerac is a poignant and entertaining homage to poetry, love and panache which will run in CST's Courtyard Theater September 24 through November 10, 2013.

The Jeff Award-winning creative team for Cyrano de Bergerac includes Scenic Designer Kevin Depinet (Sunday in the Park with George, Follies, Timon of Athens, As You Like It), Costume Designer Susan Mickey (The School for Lies, Timon of Athens, Richard III), and Lighting Designer Jesse Klug (Shrek The Musical, Murder for Two, Cadre, SS! The Taming of the Shrew). Composer Rokko Jans, who has written music for over 23 productions at Chicago Shakespeare (including Twelfth Night, Cymbeline, Henry IV Parts 1 and 2) and resident Wig and Make-up Designer Melissa Veal (Henry VIII, Julius Caesar, The School for Lies) also join the exceptional team of designers.

Chicago Shakespeare Theater's Cyrano de Bergerac runs September 24 through November 10, 2013 in CST's Courtyard Theater.

For more information or to purchase tickets or a season subscription, contact Chicago Shakespeare Theater's Box Office at 312.595.5600

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To advertise in Crafters Corner, or Crafters Wanted, call Linda for more information at 708-425-1910.

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Forbes names Fish Creek Wisconsin one of America's prettiest towns

Visitors and residents already familiar with Door County's charms will not be surprised to learn that Forbes Magazine is spreading the word after naming Fish Creek, Wisconsin among the top 15 prettiest towns in the country. The announcement of the 15 Prettiest Towns in America came in a recently released story on Forbes.com.

Forbes author John Giuffio consulted with travel experts from Frommer's, National Geographic, Fodor's, and Midwest Living Magazine who shared their thoughts on America's most picturesque towns for the list. According to Forbes, the goal was to find towns "seemingly custom-designed for soaking in the sights, with charming Main Streets, a variety of activities and beautiful vistas. Whether it's the fresh air, authenticity or lack of skyscrapers, these enchanting locales deserve a spot on your travel to-do list."

Fish Creek was lauded for "its rural natural setting, and its location as a base from which to explore the entire Door County peninsula... with five Wisconsin state parks located in Door County, together they create an impressive amount of natural wonder to explore." "It looks like someone built the town in New England and moved it to America's Heartland," says Kendra Williams of Midwest Living.

Other towns honored on the list include Kapa'a, Hawaii, Camden, Maine, Breckinridge, Colorado and Asheville, North Carolina.

With 300 miles of shoreline, eleven lighthouses, five state parks, an eclectic art and cultural scene along with boutique shopping, award winning dining options and a wonderful mix of lodging options, this accolade is another beautiful feather in Door County's destination-award cap. In March 2013, Fodor's named Door County one of the 10 Best Small Towns in America.

"We're honored to have one of our Door County communities included on this 15 prettiest towns list from Forbes," said Jon Jarosh, the Door County Visitor Bureau's director of communications and public relations. "This sort of national recognition presents an opportunity for us to introduce our destination to travelers who have yet to visit," Jarosh continued. "It also helps add credibility to our destination on a national level," he said.

The DCVB is the official tourism marketing organization for the county whose mission is to generate incremental economic impact for the community by attracting visitors with strategies that ensure sustainable tourism.

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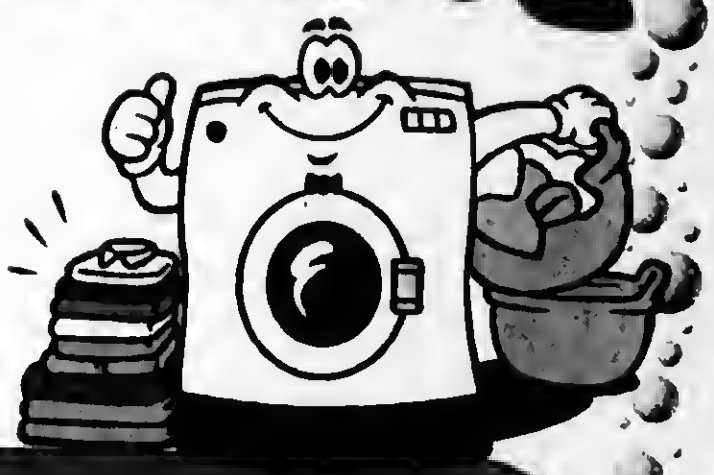

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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 40 | Number 6 | September 17, 2013

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

Evergreen Park resident Katie Shannon conducted the Stein Hoisting contest at the 2012 Oktoberfest.

Oktoberfest Beer and German Wine Tasting

The Evergreen Park Library Foundation will host its Oktoberfest Beer and German Wine Tasting on Saturday, September 28 at Evergreen Park Activity Center located at 3220 W 98th Street, Evergreen Park. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

The Oktoberfest is an annual fundraising event that provides an opportunity for community members to gather together to support the library. The event is sponsored by MillerCoors and Tenth & Blake Beer Company. Each ticket includes 10 tasting tickets to purchase premium beer, wine, food, or non-alcoholic beverages, commemorative Oktoberfest pilsner tasting glass, live entertainment by the Bratwurst Brothers, a stein-hoisting contest and fabulous raffle prizes!

The cost to attend is $25 in advance or $30 at the door per person. Raffle tickets will be available for purchase at the Evergreen Park Library, 9400 S. Troy before the event and winners need not be present to win. For reservations, call the library at 708-422-8522 or click www.evergreenparklibrary.org. Credit cards are accepted.

Justice prolongs cell tower decision

by Jan Glaz

It has become a hard call. On September 9th at the Village of Justice President and Board of Trustees meeting Trustee Ed Rusch Jr. suggested a final committee meeting to further evaluate whether to sell their cell tower leases, a valuable village asset, or agree to a lease extension request from American Tower. Rusch continuously receives offers from willing buyers for a one-time cash payment. The village has been hesitant to sell, as the tower generates consistent and escalating annual revenue. American Tower is asking for a term of one lease for eight, five-year terms. The terms of the lease extension, percentages and dollar amounts, weigh in in resolving the issue. Trustee Rusch announced that with the help of the attorney and clerk they have pushed their response date to American Tower until October 13th. The final meeting allows for any questions before the board entertains approval at the next board of trustees meeting.

Trustee Henry Oszakiewski announced the arrival of 3 business licenses, all met with approval: Jay Ambe Liquors, Inc. d/b/a E & M Food & Liquor, 7758 S. Archer Road, Suhas Patel, owner; Happy Days Day Care Center, 8455 W. 79th Street, Bonnie Halon, owner; D & R Agency, Inc., 8432 S. 88the Avenue, Suite B, Donna Heabel, owner.

Motions carried for the following requests before the meeting adjourned: A donation to the Special Olympics of Illinois to be paid from Special Events fund in the amount of $100; an acceptance proposal from American Sealcoating & Maintenance, Inc. in Bridgeview, Illinois for sealcoating of the parking lot and walking path at the Lipinski Community Center at a cost of $3,075.20 and for crack filling of 30,000 linear feet of pavement for a cost of $15,000 to be paid from MFT funds earmarked for maintenance of streets, the approvals are contingent upon receipt by the village of an executed prevailing wage addendum from the contractor; A Trailer Mounted High Pressure Sewer Cleaner from the Sewer Equipment Company of America for the cost of $55,519.00, a cost already included in the capital lease funds; and the acceptance of proposals and purchase of a Dump Truck with Stainless Steel Bed and Spreader, purchase included in capital lease funds at a cost not to exceed $135,000.00.

Pig roast dinner

Delicious Dinner and Entertainment, featuring a Pig Roast Dinner which will include German Potato Salad, Baked Beans, Macaroni & cheese, beverages and much more! The event will take place on Saturday, September 28 from 6 to 10 pm. Entertainment will be by "Legend" which will offer country music and country line dancing! The event will be at Trinity Lutheran Church, Oak Lawn, IL located at 97th & Brandt Avenue (2 blocks west of Cicero). The cost for the tickets is $25 in advance or $30 at the door per person. There will also be tickets for sale available for a raffle lottery. Beer and wine will be sold as well. If you need to purchase tickets or would like more information, please contact the church office at 708-422-0193.

Hickory Hills Lions Club thanks Hickory Hills Officials

by Jan Glaz

The Hickory Hills Lions Club 4th annual "Roar and Run for Fun" 5K Run/ Walk is scheduled for Saturday October 26th at 9:00 a.m. A representative of the Hickory Hills Lions Club, Vince Uzzardo, addressed the city council at the September 13th Hickory Hills City Council meeting and offered praise and thanks for their ongoing support of the event. For the past 3 "Roar and Run for Fun" events officials have been present and have volunteered their time and efforts; the run is specifically close to Mayor Mike Howley, said Vince. This year the Mayor is aiding the club by distributing flyers and publicity to get the word out, especially to encourage people to join in along the race route. Volunteers are always welcome. Everyone's welcome! Refreshments and awards will be presented after the run. Visit the Hickory Hills Lions Club website at www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/hickory_hills or call Vince Uzzardo at 708-430-2210 and you can email at: hickoryhillslions@gmail.com . Registration is also available on line at www.signmeup.com/93043.

In other business, before the meeting adjourned, City Clerk Dee Catizone announced Hickory Hills Intergovernmental Agreement with the Cook County Health Inspections, as the city does not hire inspectors. St. Patricia School, at 9000 S. 86th Avenue, 708.598.8200, requested a Liquor License for the Oktoberfest scheduled for September 28th from 5-11 p.m.; the council voted to grant the request. A long discussion of the proposed amendment to the Hickory Hills Liquor License Ordinance produced a tie vote from Aldermen, Mayor Howley voted aye and the motion carried. Now that 88th Avenue is completed the city council moved to approve installing decorative street signs and discussed consistency with other streets in the city as an important factor. The council is looking to update signs within city on an annual basis.

Evergreen Park Fire Department provided CPR and AED to library staff

by Matt Mayer

Mayor James Sexton thanked Fire Chief Tom Mullally and Ron Finerson at the brief Sept. 3 Evergreen Park Board of Trustees meeting for providing the Red Cross First Aid CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) and AED (automated external defibrillator) training to the library staff. Additional information regarding this program for workplaces, schools and individuals may be obtained by visiting http://www.redcross.org/.

Other highlights: The annual Fall Tree Sale Program has commenced. Photos of the trees along with applications are available at the municipal building as well as on the village website at www.evergreenpark-il.com/. The deadline for ordering trees is Oct. 4. Also, vehicle stickers are available for purchase at the municipal building or the Currency Exchange at 95th and Kedzie Avenue for a nominal fee. Stickers must be displayed by Sept. 15 to avoid a citation.

A request from Police Chief Michael Saunders to purchase docking stations and Toughbook computers was approved as well as request from Most Holy Redeemer Parish to hold their Annual Homecoming Parade on Saturday, Sept. 28. A request from Queen Of Martyrs Parish to host their Annual Walk-A-Thon on Friday, Sept 20 with a rain date of Monday, Sept. 23 was approved as well as a request from Shawn Hughes to host the 2nd annual Freedom Isn't Free 5K Event on Saturday Oct. 27. The week of Sept. 17-23 was proclaimed "Constitution Week".

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 18 | September 17, 2013

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Oak Forest Food 4 Less Gas Station denied permit

by Jan Glaz

Rarely does the City of Oak Forest deny a request from a city business, hut on September 10th at the City of Oak Forest Council Meeting officials unanimously voted nay and refused to grant a special use permit in regards to a new sign for the Food 4 Less Gas Station, located at 5432 W. 159th Street. The petitioner, Doyle Signs, acting as the agent for Food 4 Less Gas Station proposed the sign would be placed on the existing Oak Forest Commons monument sign and was to be a gas advertisement manual reader board positioned under the Food 4 Less grocery inset; proposed sign height 28.5'- total monument height 40.25 feet. At that height it would have been the largest business sign in Oak Forest. The Oak Forest Planning and Zoning Commission noted that the signage is not compatible in terms of its design and it detracts from the neighboring properties.

The Planning Commission had voted 3-5 against, prior to presenting the request to the city council. Community Development Director Adam Dotson discussed the fact that other options are available. An alternative is to place gas prices on the Commons canopy which is 16' high, giving them visibility. Alderman Richard Simon commented, "I want the Food 4 Less Gas Station to be able to advertise their prices in the hope of starting a gas war; their prices have been exceptionally low since they opened." The city council denial reflects the city's reluctance to set a precedent for other larger monument signs to advertise pricing, rather than businesses'.

Finance Director Colleen Julian received approval for Fiscal Year 2013-14 Budget Adjustment No. 2. Julian stated the adjustments were necessary for 3 expenditures listed as: $11,219.00 related to the dog park. The city received contributions from residents for that purpose, in that amount; second, the city agrees to pay the approved developer incentive the amount of $100,000 upon completion of the dialysis center; and the final adjustment relates to the evidence room. An increase of $11,000 allows for new evidence lockers, an air purifier and electrical work for an exhaust fan.

Prior to closing the meeting, Mayor Henry Kuspa proclaimed September 17 through September 23, 2013 as Constitution week in the City of Oak Forest and the City Council approved. September 17th marks the two hundred twenty-sixth anniversary of the drafting of the Constitution of the United States of America by the Constitutional Convention. Constitution Week asks all citizens to reaffirm the ideals that the Framers of the Constitution had in 1787 by vigilantly protecting the freedoms guaranteed to us through this guardian of our liberties, remembering that lost rights may never be regained.

Tinley Park moves to upgrade outdated facilities

by Jan Glaz

Outdated 35 year old washrooms located at the Tinley Park Public Works Garage are slated for major renovation. With later expansion of the building and the addition of staff the original design is insufficient by 50% of current usage and lacks Americans with Disabilities (ADA) compliance. On September 3rd officials approved a contract awarded to Contractor F.H. Paschen at a cost not to exceed $138,050.54. The approved budget amount is $148,000, which is $9,949.46 under budget. The Village utilized the State of Illinois' Job Order Contracting (JOC) bidding process to select F.H. Paschen. Paschen previously won a competitive state bid to be the state approved contractor for the JOC program. Included in the renovation, fixture upgrades with ADA compliance; installation of new energy compliance fixture controls and lighting; replacement of wall, and new floor tiles.

The Village of Tinley Park plans to paint 600 Fire Hydrants within the Village at a cost of $34,272.00. Bids for the project were advertised according to state bidding laws and sealed bids were opened and read publicly on August 23, 2013 by the Deputy Village Clerk. B.C.P., Inc. won the contract approved by the board to perform quality work at a competitive price for the fiscal year 2014 and a price for fiscal years 2015 and 2016. Newsworthy: A motion carried for a Resolution authorizing a maintenance agreement for storm water detention ponds for the Millennium Lakes/Convention Center. Trustee Thomas J. Staunton explained that as part of the Millennium Lakes/ Convention Center development Hartz Builders had constructed a centralized storm water detention pond.

The pond was dedicated to the Village with the property maintenance for the adjacent land divided between property owners. The intent of the original agreement was that the neighboring resident associations would mow the grass relevant to their property and the Village would maintain the detention pond in accordance with industry standards.

The maintenance agreement approved by the board of trustees clarifies the responsibility of the pond and pond bank under the obligation of the Village and the lawn maintenance under the responsibility of the four adjacent property owners.

Orland revises Indoor Smoking Ban Code

by Jan Glaz

The Village of Orland Park updated the Village Code in regards to the prohibition of smoking in public spaces.

Indoor Smoking Ban, on September 3rd at the Board of Trustees Meeting. The approved amendment is in response to recent applications of smoking establishments near residential, parks and school properties. Currently, the Village Code requires the business to be in a free standing building solely occupied by the business, to be registered for and authorized by a tobacco license, and to be a controlled environment where smoke does not migrate to places where indoor smoking is prohibited. In part, the amendment adds a proximity limitation for locating in free standing buildings.

The business must be 100 feet from any residential, park or school property measured from lot line to lot line. In addition to this proximity limit, the free standing structure must also be at least 20 feet from any other non-accessory building.

The updated amendment also limits the hours of operation for retail tobacco stores in certain zoning districts and will require retail tobacco stores with indoor smoking privileges in free standing structures to have fire sprinkler and alarm systems installed in the building prior to occupancy. Should a retail tobacco store propose to occupy building that has never had a fire sprinkler system, the Village will require the fire suppression systems.

The Village Board of Trustees also approved a one year hotel tax sharing agreement, commencing in 2014, with the Chicago Southland Convention & Visitors' Bureau (CSCVB) that provides funding in the amount of 25% of total hotel tax revenues collected. The Village currently collects a 4% hotel tax and there is currently only one hotel in the Village that pays this hotel tax; Homewood Suites on LaGrange Road. The Village collects about $98,000 annually in hotel tax. The one year agreement with CSCVB is to share 25% of the annually collected revenues, which is estimated to be $24,500 for the fiscal year 2014.

Newsworthy information before the meeting adjourned: A motion carried to approve an Ordinance to dispose of Personal Property owned by the Village of Orland Park by public auction.

The property will be sold online through Public Surplus.com and the proceeds from the auction will be deposited in the general fund of the Village of Orland Park, Illinois.

Village View encourages need for AriannaG by donating at http://cota.donorpages.com/PatientOnlineDonation/COTAforAriannaG

see page 8 for more info

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SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 14 | Number 18 | September 17, 2013

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Palos Hills presents beautification awards

by Matt Mayer

In a telephone conversation regarding the Palos Hills City Council meeting, the annual awards recognizing residents and businesses for the beautification of their property. Residential award went to the following: Ozgul, Oblazana, Tilly, Jurzee, and Hassan families - some of the winners requested that they not be published. Business awards went to Bertucci's, Mc Donald's, Belvedere Chateau, Village Pub and Moraine Valley Community College. The beautification awards recognize five houses from each ward as well as local businesses. The front and side yards are judged - judges don't walk to resident's back yards. The houses are judged on curb appeal only. The recipients receiving an award had their picture taken with Muyor Gerry Bennett and Ald. Kleefish. They also received a yard sign for the front of their house.

Bennett thanked the homeowners for taking pride in their property and said, "It seems like each time one home puts the award sign up even more people from the block participate".

Ald. Marty Kleefish (1st Ward) introduced the program, which has gained popularity each year. There is no entry fee for the contest. This year's judges were Ald. Bill Hanson (3rd Ward), Sharon Kleefiseh, Frank Bennett, John Griffin and Linda Gruener.

Palos Heights approves the city's tree inventory

by Matt Mayer

Officials approved a payment of $19,750.00 to Natural Path Urban Forestry Consultant at the Sept. 3 Palos Heights City Council meeting for the city's tree inventory which will be reimbursed through a grant. A request to award a contract to Hamastra Enterprises for $17,760.00 for roof replacement at the Lake Katherine Nature Auditorium was also approved.

A motion to authorize the city attorney Tom Brown to draft an ordinance for a 4 ft rear yard setback and a 3.6 ft side yard setback variance for the installation of a pool deck at 7514 Pottawatomi Drive was approved along with a motion to waive the rules and approve the ordinance. An ordinance for Brown to draft an ordinance for a rear yard variance just off the lot line and a side yard variance from the side of the garage to the house and from the side of the garage to the back fence for the installation of a fence at 6836 Edgewood Drive was approved along with a motion to waive the rules and adopt the ordinance.

A motion to authorize Brown to draft an ordinance for a 7 ft side yard setback variance to replace an existing shed at 7555 Pottawatomi Drive along with a motion to waive the rules and adopt the ordinance was approved. A request for a special event permit by Trinity Christian College to host their annual 5K Color Run on Suturday, Oct. 5 with the route running through the campus and Navajo Hill's subdivision was approved. The week of September 17 through 23 was proclaimed "Constitution Week".

State Rep. Kelly Burke addresses Worth Board of Trustees

by Matt Mayer

State Representative Kelly Burke (36th District) gave a presentation at a recent Worth Board of Trustees meeting. Burke said that things are going better in Springfield and some of the high points for local government are no diversions on the local money. "We are working for prompt transfer of tax money to local governments under house bill HB961. In fiscal year 2013 the State of Illinois paid off $2 billion dollars in bills. Also the reform of the workers compensation program should bring costs down in 2013." She also talked about pension reform.

Other highlights: Officials approved the appointment the mayoral appointment of James Hudson as Police and Fire Commissioner. A contract for services provided by Dwayne Fox as Financial Director as well as Mayor Werner to execute the agreement amending the contract by changing from Meeea to Dwayne Fox was approved.

A request to purchase a 2014 Ford F550 Regular Cab 2-wheel Drive truck for $46,364.00 through state purchase was approved as well as a request to purchase a 2014 Ford F550 Crew Cab 2-Wheel Drive truck for $48,184.00 through state purchase. A request to sell a 2009 Ford Crown Victoria police cruiser for $6,000.00 was also approved.

An Ordinance 13-17 amending various provisions of Title 7 of the municipal code pertaining to water and wastewater was approved. Trustee Pete Kats said this ordinance updates some procedures for meter readings.

Autumn in the Park Festival Chili Challenge

Are you ready to fire up your taste buds? It's time for the Autumn in the Park Festival Chili Challenge in Palos Park.

Autumn In The Park Festival Chili Challenge will be held at the Village of Palos Park, Village Green behind the Recreation Center, 8901 West 123rd Street on Saturday, September 21. This 1 day event will feature food vendors, beer, wine, and spirits, a sports cave, MYfm 93.9, Arts Colony exhibits, Touch-A-Truck, Coopers Hawk wine tasting, Carnival bingo/raffle, 103.5 KISS FM, kids area with Euro Bungee, hayrack rides, jumpy jump, face painting, petting zoo, laser tag, giant slide, crafts and games. The Chili cookoff is sanctioned by the International Chili Society (ICS) and Chili Appreciation Society International (CASI).

"We can't wait!," said LeeAnn Fisk, Director of Palos Park Recreation Department. "We are excited to have the Autumn In The Park Festival Chili Challenge featuring both Chili organizations ICS and CASI. Both raise millions of dollars annually for charity."

The Autumn In The Park Festival Chili Challenge will benefit the Special Event Fund of Palos Park. The special events give our community recreation and socialization opportunities while promoting local vendors. The people of Palos Park, as well as local businesses, seem to enjoy a spirit of camaraderie and develop a united sense of community.

The ICS sanctioned contest includes three chili categories – verde (Green), salsa, and traditional Red and the CASI contest features traditional Red. $5 will get you in the Autumn In The Park Festival Chili Challenge. All cooks are entered into the People's Choice Contests. The tasting of over 30 chilis starts at 1:15 pm. For more information on the Autumn In The Park Festival Chili Challenge, please visit www.palospark.org/AutumninPalosPark/ or contact LeeAnn Fisk at 708-671-3762.

Village View encourages need for AriannaG by donating at http://cota.donorpages.com/PatientOnlineDonation/COTAforAriannaG

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B-MAC EDITION

Volume 7 | Number 18 | September 17, 2013

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Alsip votes to accept Planning Assistance

by Jan Glaz

The Village of Alsip consented to accept the planning assistance services delivered by the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) at the Alsip Village Board Meeting on September 3rd. CMAP is an agency that integrates land use planning and transportation planning for the counties of Cook, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry and Will in northeastern Illinois. The State of Illinois legislation created CMAP and gave the agency the task of integrating land use and transportation into one agency that would protect natural resources, improve mobility, and minimize traffic congestion in the seven-county region.

CMAP is responsible for developing the region's official transportation plan, part of the broader 2040 comprehensive plan that integrates transportation with land use, housing, economic development, open space, the environment, and other quality-of-life issues. This transportation plan must be updated every four years, use visualization techniques, engage the general public, and include a separate Transportation Improvement Program document. Along with their partners, CMAP will supply the Village with the best technical assistance and analysis to improve land use and transportation decision-making for the region.

Noteworthy approvals: A motion carried for the Police Department to purchase two patrol vehicles, one Ford Explorer and one Ford Taurus from Currie Ford and to waive the bidding process and to purchase a 2012 Ford Escape from National Car Rental at a cost not to exceed $18,000. Authorization for the attorney to prepare an ordinance for a sign variance for Polmax, located at 12161 S. Central, for placement of two ground signs, one at each of the property entrances. New Zion Ministries, 12147 S. Cicero Avenue received permission for their request to reschedule their carnival event to September 27 through the 29th; and Public Works will begin seeking bids for the 2013 Sidewalk Program.

Village of Crestwood pays tribute to Nancy Benedetto

by Jan Glaz

On September 5th the Village of Crestwood paid tribute and bestowed special honors to Nancy C. Benedetto.

recently retired Crestwood Village Clerk of 40 years, who passed away on August 22nd. Nancy Benedetto's unique accomplishments are immortalized in a Proclamation from the Office of the Mayor naming Nancy Benedetto as Crestwood's "Person of the Year 2012". Current Village Clerk, Jeannette O'Donnell, presented the Proclamation stating: Nancy Benedetto, a 50 year resident who volunteered over 44 years of public service for the betterment of the residents and businesses, who served as Clerk for the past 40 years, will always be remembered as the first clerk in Illinois, and probably the country, to pay back to homeowners large portions of the complete real estate tax bill; that her vision and leadership transformed the village from a bedroom/ farming community to a modern mecca of commerce and industry; that all major accomplishments during her administration were accomplished without special assessments or increased taxes and have set the standards for future administrations to emulate; she proved that government must be operated as a business and not a bureaucracy in order to be fiscally responsible; her tireless efforts have gained for Crestwood widespread recognition and admiration.

Mayor Presta, who met Nancy Benedetto 24 years ago, when he began serving Crestwood as Village Zoning Commissioner said, "I was impressed from the moment I met her by the depth of knowledge she had for Village administration and the level of commitment she held for the residents of Crestwood." Before the board meeting adjourned a motion carried to Consider, approve and pass an Ordinance Adopted by the Village of Crestwood Amending Ordinances 2095 and 2117 Regarding the Designation of Meeting Dates and Times for the Calendar year 2013. The board also accepted the Bond & Oaths for: Rob Lyons, Police Commission; Mark Taylor; Kevin Morris, Fire Department; and for the Police Department, James R. Stepiem; Nickolas C.

Kleopa; Lee R. West; Kristie L. Barman; Matt J. McGeever; Gregory W. Gaj; Eric Churma

Midlothian and South Suburban Land Bank enter into agreement

by Jan Glaz

In an effort to raise the economic standards of the Village of Midlothian the Board of Trustees, on September 11th, adopted an Intergovernmental Agreement with the South Suburban Land Bank and approved a Resolution

Authorizing Appointment of a Local Government Director to the South Suburban Land Bank and Development Authority (SSLBDA). The South Suburban Land Bank is a regional economic development tool for municipalities with limited resources and limited staffing, to legally hold, manage and facilitate the redevelopment of targeted properties. One of the first priorities of the Land Bank will be to address the thousands of vacant and abandoned homes throughout the Southland.

These homes can become dangerous safety hazards and can harbor criminal activity. This depresses property values of the surrounding neighborhood, and discourages investment. The Land Bank is committed to assisting businesses in finding and retaining viable locations in the southern suburbs to help retain and create new job opportunities, and to lessen the real estate tax burden on area homeowners.

Trustee Karen Kreis presented information in regards to owning a home from the Illinois Welcome Home Heroes program, which provides critical financial support to those who have honorably served in the U.S. Armed Forces.

The Illinois Housing Development Authority, as a token of appreciation, are offering military personnel $10,000 cash to cover down payment and closing costs; a variety of loan options; a federal tax credit that reduces the federal income tax liability by up to $18,000 over the life of the loan. Eligibility: Veterans (need not be first-time homebuyers) and active military personnel, reservists and Illinois National Guard members (must be first-time homebuyers) Requirements: Contribute 1% or $1,000 of the purchase price; purchase a one or two unit property within Illinois and live in the property as primary residence.

For more information call 312.836.5200 or www.ihda.org/lender. "I can't visualize a more appropriate day to be talking about this then the anniversary of 9/11." said Trustee Kreis. Prior to adjournment, three important Cicero Avenue TIF Ordinances received a positive vote from the board of trustees: Ordinance for a Redevelopment Plan and Project; an ordinance designating the 147th Street and Cicero Corridor Redevelopment Project Area; an ordinance Adopting Tax Increment Allocation Financing.

MetroSouth Medical Center names new Chief Executive Officer

Brian Sinotte has been named Chief Executive Officer of MetroSouth Medical Center effective September 23, 2013. Sinotte has over a decade of experience, most recently serving as Chief Operating Officer of Porter Health System, a 301-bed facility in Valparaiso, Indiana.

"I look forward to working with the dedicated professionals at MetroSouth Medical Center," said Sinotte. "Because of their work, patients have come to expect quality, personalized care when they visit this hospital."

Sinotte holds a master's degree in Healthcare Administration and an MBA from the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. He received his bachelor's degree from Saint John's University in Collegetown, Minnesota.

Village View encourages need for AriannaG by donating at http://cola.donorpages.com/PatientOnlineDonation/COTAforAriannaG

see page 8 for more info

Medicare Open Enrollment Seminar

Palos Township SHIP (Senior Health Insurance Program) counselors will sponsor an Open Enrollment Seminar for Medicare Parts A, B, C and Part D, as well as Medicare Supplemental Insurance. It will be held on Thursday, October 10, 2013 from 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M at Palos Township. 10802 S. Roberts Road, Palos Hills, Illinois. The seminar coincides with the Open Enrollment Period which runs from October 15, 2013 through December 7th, 2013.

Counselors will be on hand to discuss Parts A, B, C and Part D prescription drug coverage, Supplemental Ins., as well as changes to certain coverage. The SHIP counselors will also have new information on the Qualified Durable Medical Equipment Coverage, also referred as DME. This consists of items such as portable oxygen tanks, wheel chairs, diahetic testing supplies, walkers, canes, etc.

Please plan on attending this informational program. For additional information please contact Palos Township at 708-598-4418.

Oak Lawn approves water distribution system upgrades

by Matt Mayer

Officials discussed the issuance of a $15 million dollar revenue bond issue for the improvement for a system wide overhaul of the water distribution system that supplies water to 12 municipalities. The slated improvements are expected to reduce energy costs with the installation of improved turbines at pumping stations, which are more energy efficient. Safety is also expected to improve through an upgraded electrical system, which includes technology to detect problems in the system before there is a water main break said village manager Larry Deetjen.

The actual cost for the system wide overhaul is expected to exceed $166 million. The total cost will be shared through higher water rates among the 12 communities the village serves, said Deetjen. Trustees Mike Carberry and Alex Olejniczak both requested a two-week extension to further review the financial plan due to the ever-changing cost projections for the project.

Trustee Bob Streit (D-3) said, " This has been going on for five years. What more do you expect in the next two weeks?" Deetjen also said the extension could be costly. The current interest rate on the bonds, which is currently 1.93 percent, expires at the end of the month. The rate is expected to then go to 2 percent, said Deetjen. The issuance of the revenue bond was approved 4-2, Carberry and Olejniczak dissented.

Rep. Lipinski announces $5 Million Federal Grant for Midway Airport

U.S. Representative, Dan Lipinski (IL-3) announced that the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has awarded a $5.1 million grant for the reconstruction of two airplane taxiways at Midway Airport. Both taxiways have reached the end of their useful life.

"Midway Airport serves a vital role in national air travel and our regional economy. This investment will help to ensure that the airport is operating as safely and efficiently as possible," Rep. Lipinski said. "I will continue working to see that the federal government keeps investing in Midway."

The grant is through the FAA's Airport Improvement Program, which provides funding for projects that improve the safety and efficiency of airports in the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS).

Rep. Lipinski is the state's most senior member on the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee and sits on the Aviation Subcommittee. His district includes Midway Airport.

Rep. Lipinski previously helped to secure $30 million from the FAA for the installation of arrestor beds in Midway's runway safety areas to stop aircraft from overshooting the airfield. Earlier this year, the congressman successfully fought to block plans for the overnight closure of the airport's control tower due to federal sequestration.

Hickory Hills Lions Club 5k Run & Walk

The Hickory Hills Lions Club will host the fourth annual "Roar and Run for Fun" 5k Run/Walk race. The race will be held on Saturday, October 26th at 9:00 am. All participants receive a long-sleeve shirt. There will be awards, door prizes, food and drink following the race.

The start/finish line will be at Hickory Hills City Hall, 8652 W. 95th Street. Come join the Hickory Hills Lions for this fun and challenging course though the hills of Hickory.

For more information about the race: www.eclubhouse.org/sites/HickoryHills, or to signup online: www.signmenp.com/93043 .

If you would like to volunteer or become a sponsor please call Vince Uzzardo 708-430-2210 or email hickoryhillslions@gmail.com.

Proceeds from the race will help the Hickory Hills Lions Club in their mission to provide programs and assistance to aid people who are blind or visually impaired. The Hickory Hills Lions Club has served the needs of the community for over 50 years.

Shopping strategies for the not so rich and famous

Fashion expert Nancy Pipal will present Shopping Strategies for the Not So Rich and Famous at the Palos Park Public Library on Tuesday, Sept. 24 at 7 p.m. Pipal will present the tools and strategies to help tackle shopping challenges and show how to spend wisely and dress smarter on smaller budgets. Call the library to register at 708-448-1530 or visit the library online at www.palosparklibrary.org. The library is located at 12330 Forest Glen Blvd. in Palos Park.

Spellers wanted

The Village of Orland Park and The Presbyterian Church in Orland Park announce the 35th Orland "Open" Spelling Bee will be held Sunday, October 20th at 2:00 p.m. at the Orland Park Civic Center. More than 100 spellers of all ages 8 to 80+ are expected to compete for the 12 trophies and 24 ribbons according to Mayor Dan McLaughlin.

Spellers of all ages 8 years to 80+ are welcomed and pre-phone registration is encouraged by calling 815/713-5502 or 708 429-7764.

This is a regional event open to spellers from any community. There is no charge. The top 20 spellers last year came from 10 different towns and villages.

Adults have won 30 of the 34 contests with two college students winning, one 16 year old, Shepherd High School and a 12 year old.

St. Michael student in 1982. Last year's champion was Tom Doyle of Orland Park, a retired Chicago Public School teacher.

The event is co-sponsored by the Village of Orland Park and The Presbyterian Church in Orland Park. Every fifth year (2013) the event is held at the Orland Park Civic Center, 14750 Ravinia. Judges are Village Trustees and Callers are from the Church.

For information, please call Bill Smith, 708/403-0804.

National Literacy Month

The Children's Museum in Oak Lawn is celebrating National Literacy Month. Simply show your library card at the admission's desk and you will get one dollar off your admission price throughout the month of September.

"Reading and writing is the foundation of today's learning," says Adam Woodworth, the museum's Executive Director. "Yes, you can turn on the Discovery Channel and the History Chunnel and get u lot of good, useful information. But, what if you want to learn more about something that you've seen? You are probably going to go to the library or look it up on the internet. That's where reading comes in and where fluency and comprehension in reading becomes that much more important."

"Some kids are good at science, some kids are good at math, but without being able to read," says Woodworth, "those subjects become that much more difficult."

While you are at the museum, you might find a way to celebrate National Literacy Month with your child. For instance, you might: participate in our 11:00am Story Time experience Tuesdays-Friday, find a book in one of the exhibits and read with your child, make a story with your child about your visit to the museum and find words throughout the museum and have your child read them to you.

The museum says that any library card from any library will get visitors the one dollar discount.

Visit http://www.cmoaklawn.org/ for more information.

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We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

Community events in Palos Hills

Registration is underway for all of these programs at the Palos Hills Community Center located at 8455 W. 103rd Street, Palos Hills, IL 60465.

The Palos Hills Community Resource & Recreation Dept. will offer new programs. AKC Dog and Puppy Classes will be starting October 2nd and running through November 6th, on Wednesday evenings. The price of the classes is $75 for residents and $80 for non-residents.

Zumba classes starting September 23rd and running through October. 28th. Classes take place at the Community Center. Class starts at 7:30pm on Mondays. The price of this class is $36 for residents and $41 for non-residents.

Cardio Kick classes starting September 24th and running through November. 12th. Classes take place at the Community Center. Class starts at 7:00pm on Tuesdays. The price of this class is $48 for residents and $53 for non-residents.

Salsa classes starting September 24th and running through October 22nd on Tuesday nights. Classes take place at the Community Center. Class starts at 6pm for beginners and 7pm for intermediate dancers. The price of these classes is $50 per person.

The Palos Hills Resource and Recreation Department will be offering many different Parent-Tot Classes starting in September, October and November.

"Making New Friends" will start September 24th and run through October 29th meeting on Tuesdays from 11:45am to 12:30pm.

"Parent and Tots Sports" will start October 7th and run through November 11th meeting on Thursdays from 1pm to 1:45pm.

"Time Out For Run" will start November 7th and run through December 19th meeting on Tuesdays from 11:45am to 12:30pm. The price of these classes is $25 for residents and $30 for non-residents. Classes take place at the Palos Hills Community Center.

If you would like more information about these classes, please call us at 708-430-4500, or visit us on-line at www.paloshillsweb.org.

Village of Evergreen Park news

Fall Tree Program has begun!

Residents and business owners alike have the opportunity to choose from a great variety of trees! Check out some photos and an online brochure!

Evergreen Park Classic Car Show coming on Friday, October 4!

From The Office of Citizens Services

Senior Council Luncheon and Program

Thursday, September 19 at 11:30am, Cost: $6 at the Senior Center, 9547 S. Homan Ave.

Chicago's Greektown Tour, one day trip, Wednesday, October 30, Cost $72, Depart 8:45am, Return 2:30 pm Tour Hellenic Museum, Calamos Great Hall, Family-style Greek lunch at Greek Islands Restaurant.

Mini-bus and Meals on Wheels services availuble through the Office of Citizen Services.

For more information on any of the above events, call (708) 422-8776.

Farmers Market will be open this Thursday, 7am to 1pm!

Recreation Department Happenings

Yoga begins!

Mondays at the Senior Center, 9547 S. Homan, 4:15pm-5:30pm (also on Sept. 23, 30 and October 7, 21)

To register, or get more information on these programs, please call (708) 229-3373

Community Events

"Rachel's Challenge"

Thursday, September 19 at 7pm at Central Junior High School

While her life was tragically cut short during the Columbine shooting, Rachel Joy Scott's shining example of kindness and compassion was not defeated that day. Come hear the inspiring true story of one girl's dream being fulfilled over a decade after her death. For more information, visit www.rachelschallenge.org/

. Harvest Festival

Saturday, September 28, 10am to 2pm

United by Faith Lutheran Church, 3240 W. 98th Street. (Farmers Market, pumpkin patch, butterfly release, labyrinth walk, live entertainment, kids uctivities). Call (708) 422-6301.

Liam's Paws for a Cause

Sunday, September 29 ut Circle Park, 1pm to 6pm.

Fundraiser for local family to obtain service dog for child diagnosed with Aspergers Syndrome, ADHD and Bipolur/Anxiety Disorders. Community event includes face painting, jumpy tents, games, raffles, DJ, food and fun. Visit http://liam-spawsforacause.weebly.com/ for more information.

Senior health screenings

VCP Home Health will offer free blood pressure, blood glucose and bulance testing for Senior Citizens on Monday, October 7 between 11:30am and 1:00pm at Bremen Township Senior Center, 15350 Oak Park Avenue, Oak Forest. Glucose testing will require a minimum of 4 hours fasting. More info at 708-687-8220.

Legacy students for the school year 2013-2014.

Mother McAuley upholds strong legacy

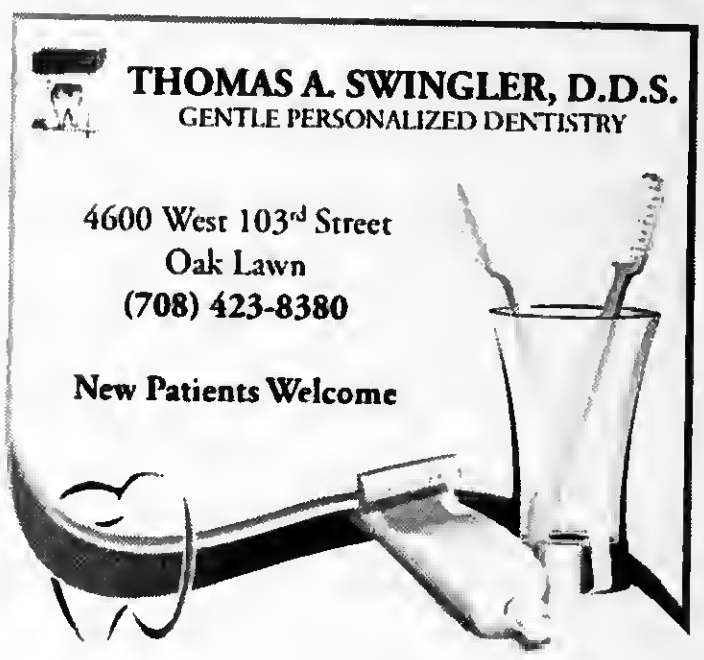
Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School is rooted in tradition. Many students are daughters, nieces and/or granddaughters of one of the school's 25,000 alumnae. These students are a testament to the school's educational strength and dedication to a long and prominent legacy.

Incoming freshmen who are considered legacy students have the option of applying for a Tradition of Excellence Scholarship, on top of a $500 scholarship given to all incoming students whose mother attended Mother McAuley or Saint Xavier Academy. Many alumnae find a home at the high school in their career, as well.

McAuley currently employs more than 35 alumnae, more than a quarter of their faculty and staff.

About Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School Founded in 1956 by the Sisters of Mercy, Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School currently educates nearly 1,200 young women grades 9 through 12 and is the largest all-girls high school in the country. McAuley promotes a single-gender education platform that encourages young women to grow in faith, envision their future and discover their talents through a challenging and motivating academic and co-curricular program.

Mother McAuley's tradition of excellence has made it a top choice for all-girls private education in the Chicago area.



The Blue Island Park District presents
BITTY BASKETBALL IS BACK
and with more friends!

The Blue Island Park District and the BEYOND THE ARC ACADEMY had formed a partnership for the Fall 2013 Bitty Basketball Season. The Beyond the Arc Academy is renowned for their expert training and concise practice sessions. The Blue Island Park District is proud to offer training of such caliber to this season's participants. Be part of this unique opportunity. All Skill levels are welcome. No prior experience is required.

The Fall 2013 Bitty Basketball season will be open to children between the ages of 6 – 9 yrs of age. Registration includes team jersey, awards, and 8 Saturday only sessions. All trainers and coaches will be provided by BTAA.

8 Saturday Sessions!
Begins September 21st thru November 9th
Saturdays at 11:30 am
Ages: 6 – 9 years of age
$55/Residents - $70/Non-Residents

find out more about the BTAA at: www.beyondthearcacademy.com

BLUE ISLAND PARK DISTRICT

Register online or at our main office
12804 S. Highland Ave, Blue Island
708 385 3304 or www.blueislandparks.org

Run for your life

An accredited 5k run/1mile walk Halloween theme event hosted by the Latino Initiative Committee at St. Benedict School and the Blue Island Park District.

This 5K will be fun for both veteran and amateur runners alike. Make it a family event or go at it alone, it's always fun to run in costume!* Costumes are encouraged but not required.

Please note: No masks are to be worn with your costume.

No imitation weapons of any kind will be allowed.

No controversial costumes.

This is a family event please choose your costume appropriately!

The USAT-certified course begins at York Street in front of Metro-South Park, turning north to Gregory Street, runners/walkers will proceed through beautiful tree-lined, fall and Halloween decorated streets, going thru downtown Blue Island on Western and ending at York Street.

Entry fees Before 10/1 Race Day

5k runner (t-shirt included)* $20; $25

1 mile walker (t-shirt included)* $10; $15

Student fee:

5k runner/1 mile walker (t-shirt included)* $10; $15 (must present School ID at packet day pick up and day of event)

*T-shirts are not guaranteed for those that register day of race.

Packet pickup:

Thursday October 3rd from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm at St. Benedict's Church Hall (basement) 2324 York St., Blue Island, IL

Online registration will close on Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2013. Participants can also use mail-in application. Registration applications also available at Blue Island Park District 12804 Highland Ave., Blue Island, IL 60406 or call 708-385-3304.

Green Hills Public Library District events

Freegal Movies and Television

The Green Hills Public Library District is excited to announce that it is the first library in the state of Illinois to offer Freegal Movies and Television. Freegal Movies and Television offers access to streaming movies and television content. Library patrons are able to access thousands of video selections from major content suppliers from the convenience of their personal computer or portable device. To get started, visit greenhillslibrary.org. If you need assistance, please visit the Information Desk or call (708) 598-8446 ext. 120.

Story Time and Toddler Time

The Library offers morning and evening sessions of story time and toddler time for your child. Classes are available for children from 18 months to 5 years of age. Call the Youth Services Department to find out when the next session starts!

Leaf and Tree I.D.

Calling all kids! Bring in leaves from your own yard and we will learn the skills to identify which trees the leaves came from. All ages. Tuesday, October 1 at 6:30pm. Registration required.

Photoshop 101

Learn all about Adobe Photoshop and what it can offer! This lecture-based class is taught at a beginner's level. Learn the graphics editing software's most commonly used capabilities such as cropping, coloring, and tilting. Wednesday, October 2 at 7pm. Registration required.

Computer Basics

Learn basic computer skills including where to start, how to find programs and documents, and customizing your desktop. Monday, October 7 from 5 to 8pm. Registration is limited to four per class. Laptops will be provided. Residents only. Registration required.

Green Team Time with Miss Emily

Enjoy nature themed stories and activities. Ages 6 to 8. Wednesday, October 9 at 6:30pm. Registration required.

Meet & Greet Your Legislator

Meet State Representative Mary E. Flowers (31st District) at the Green Hills Public Library District. Representative Flowers is a strong advocate for seniors and affordable health care. She now represents most of Hickory Hills and will be happy to answer questions about legislation and any issues that you may be concerned about. Refreshments will be served. Thursday, October 10 at 2pm. Registration required.

Teen Scary Movie Night

Hang out at the Library to snack on some pizza, pop, and popcorn while we watch The Grudge. Bring your friends! Thursday, October 10 at 6pm. Registration required.

Teen Read Week

Celebrate Teen Read Week from October 13 to 19. This year's theme is "Seek the Unknown @ Your Library." Submit a book review at the Youth Services Desk to enter for a chance to win a gift card! All book reviews will be posted on the Library's Tumblr Page: greenhillslibraryteens.tumblr.com. Follow us!

Hickory Hills Park District news

Special Event

The annual Hickory Hills Park District Pumpkin Fest will be Saturday, October 5th at Kasey Meadow Park, 8047 W. 91st Place. Pre-register your child for 240 minutes of Halloween fun: Pony Rides, Inflatable Monster Truck Bounce, Giant 80' Slide, Wind Jammer Swing Ride, Gold Fish Toss, Pumpkin Patch, Face Painting, and more! The Fest begins at noon and lasts until 4:00 p.m. Advance registration is $3 for children 1-2 years; $7 for children 3-12. Pre-registration ends Oct. 4 at 5:00 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at the Cynthia Neal Center located at 8047 W. 91st Place. Registration at the fest is $10.

Youth Sports

Recreational Volleyball. This instructional program for boys and girls will stress overhand serving, passing, setting, footwork and fun. Players will gain an overall knowledge of team strategy. Games will be held each week. Classes will be held Thursday, Sept. 26 thru Nov. 14 at Krueger Park Rec. Center from 4:30 to 5:45 p.m. Ages: 10 to 16 years. Fee: $25 Resident; $30 Non-Resident.

Korner Kickers. This instructional outdoor soccer league is for players 3 ½ - 5 years of age. The league will teach young soccer stars the basics of the game. Kids will learn basic techniques and get familiar with the game and how it is played. Games will be played at Krueger Park Soccer Field on Mondays, Sept. 30 thru Nov. 11. Game time will be 5:30 or 6:30 p.m. Fee: $25 Resident; $30 Non-Resident.

Shooting Stars. Kids will become familiar with passing, dribbling, shooting and the basic of basketball. This class is held on Thursdays, Sept. 19 thru Nov. 7 from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. at Krueger Park Rec. Center. Ages: 8 to 10 years. Fee: $29 Resident; $34 Non-Resident.

Crash the Boards. This 7 week class is the perfect class for the future basketball star. This class is held on Wednesdays., Sept. 18 thru Oct. 30 from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. at the Krueger Park Rec. Center. Ages: 6 to 8 years & 9 to 12 years. Fee: $33 Resident; $38 Non-Resident (fee includes a "Crash the Boards" t-shirt)

Music Classes at Hickory Hills Park District

Experience the fun and excitement of performing with other musicians in Violin Band. This class is for ages 5 years & up. Classes are held on Sundays, Sept. thru Dec.1 from 12 noon to 1:00 p.m. at Krueger Park Rec. Center. To conclude, the Violin Band will perform at the Children's Christmas Party on Saturday, December 7. Fee: Resident $43; Non-Resident $48.

Private violin lesson are held at Krueger Park Rec. Center for ages 4 years & up. Our instructor will teach positioning, notes and memorization. Lessons are 45 minutes on Sundays, between 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. or Saturdays between 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Lessons begin in September. Fee: Resident $173; Non-Resident $178.

For more information about special events and programming, please call 708-598-1233 or visit www.hhparkdistrict.org.

Moraine Valley hosting early childhood conference

Teachers, social workers, counselors, and parents who work with infants through third grade children should attend the Hopeful Tomorrows Start with Early Childhood Conference at Moraine Valley Community College on Saturday, October 5, from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The conference will be in the Moraine Business and Conference Center, on campus, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills. The cost to attend is $50.

Attendees will hear two presentations. Mary Wonderlick will present "Learning the Language: Math Talk for Math Language Learners." She will focus on the process of developing math concepts by building on children's experiences before math terminology is introduced. Topics will include patterns, ordinal numbers, addition and subtraction, and measurement.

"Miss Carole" Stephens of Macaroni Soup will present "DSL: Dance, Sing, Learn! The High-Speed Connection between Music and Early Literacy." Active music provides opportunities for children of all abilities to participate, but without musical training, kids could be uncontrollable. This workshop presents new songs and movement activities to get children energized; some of the research findings about brain activity, motor development and learning styles that make music an imperative and not an "extra:" and classroom management techniques that keep kids safe and in control of their bodies, and are easy for teachers.

A certificate of attendance for in-service training credit will be awarded to participants. The CEU credit hours can be used toward the yearly hours of staff development required by the Department of Children and Family Services. Moraine Valley also is licensed by the state to issue Continuing Education Credit to clinical social workers. People requesting social workers CEUs must sign up for them when they check in at the conference.

For more information, contact the college's Corporate, Community and Continuing Education Department at (708) 974-5735 or ccce@morainevalley.edu.

Register today in person at the Registration Office, located in S125 on campus, or by calling (708) 974-2110 (TTY for the hearing impaired 708-974-9556). Participants also can register online at morainevalley.edu by selecting "Register for Noncredit Classes" under Academic Focus then "Search, register and pay for noncredit classes."

~Friday, September 20~
5:00 PM - 10:00 PM
Food Vendors, Beer, Wine, and Spirits

FREE ADMISSION

Main Tent Entertainment:
5:00 PM - 6:30 PM BLU WILLIE T & DA MID-NITE LOVERS
7:00 PM - 10:00 PM HITSVILLE REVUE BAND & SHOW

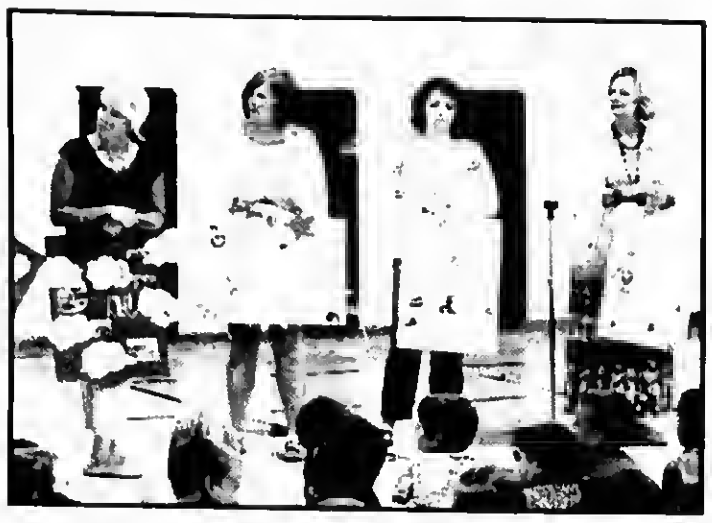
~Saturday, September 21~
11:00 AM - 12th Annual Village Parade
12:30 PM - 10:00 PM Fest Grounds Open
Food Vendors, Beer, Wine, and Spirits

Main Tent Entertainment:
3:00 PM - 6:00 PM SKIP TOWNE & THE GREYHOUNDS
7:00 PM - 10:00 PM LIBIDO FUNK CIRCUS

Free Parking At The Palos Park Metra Station on Saturday, With a Complimentary Trolley Shuttle To and From Festival Grounds

SATURDAY ACTIVITIES
Hayrack Rides - Petting Zoo - Arts Colony - Wine Tasting - Demonstrations - Touch A Truck
Pony Rides - Giant Slide - Jumpy Jump - Euro Bungee- BBQ Rib Competition
Chili Competition - Sports Cave - Laser Tag - Merchants Row
"Carnival Bingo" Sponsored By The VFW Post 2604 in the Recreation Center at 1:00 PM

Palos Park Village Green 8901 W. 123rd Street www.AutumnInTheParkFestival.org



High Point teachers Mrs. Wojcik, Mrs. Omahen, Mrs. Jordan, and Principal Cheryl Foertsch present posters of All Start Student attributes.

High Point School prepares All-Star Learners

As school gets back in full swing, High Point School hosted a spirited all-school assembly to launch their 2013-14 student character program. The theme, "Find the All Star Learner in You: Responsible, Respectful, Resourceful" is designed to support the school's mission and vision. The focus of the assembly was a demonstration these character traits to the students in the form of a skit performed by High Point staff showing the students how their everyday actions can represent responsibility, respect and resourcefulness in the school and in the community.

Additionally, the staff presented posters created by the teachers showing how students at High Point School can be an All Star: Reader, Writer, Math Champion, Scientist, Musician, Artist, Healthy Student, Physically fit, Researcher, Responsible, Respectful, Resourceful. These posters are on display in the school's main hallway for students and families to see during the first weeks of school.

High Point Principal Cheryl Foertsch said, "We reinforce how the students should be following the mission in all areas of our school: the classroom, gym, lunchroom, out at recess, on the bus, during assemblies, on field trips, and during emergency situations. Students will earn an all-star ribbon this year when they are seen following the expectations. We look forward to handing out many ribbons this year!"

Evergreen Park Farmers Market

Visit the Evergreen Park Farmers' Market every Thursday (7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.) at Yukich Field, 89th & Kedzie. Take advantage of the OCS Mini-Bus available to transport residents to the Farmers' Market. Phone 708-422-8776 for a reservation.

Free Shredding, October 17 (9:00 a.m. to Noon)

Sponsored by South Division Credit Union, enabling residents to dispose of personal documents in a safe manner (3 box limit).

Kick off your Halloween Season

"Kick off your Halloween Season" with the Central Stickney Park District on your choice of one of the Supernatural Tours offered. On Friday, October 11, 2013 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Bob Trzeciak will be your guide on a Spooktacularly informative walking tour of Chinatown. You'll see the Chinese Tong Building were Chinese justice is carried out, the Chinese Zodiac Plaza, the Golden Phoenix's haunted second floor and have time to shop at the Don Kae Store for the best selections in Chinatown. Then it's on to Ethel's Party, former home of the original Coletta's Funeral Home, one of the most haunted buildings in Chicago! Wear your comfortable walking shoes and be prepared for a great Chinese lunch which is included in the tour.

Or, on Sunday, October 20, 2013 from 2:00 to 6:00 PM Bob Trzeciak will be our guide to the Southside's "physic hot spots" as he shares his paranormal experiences and information that he hopes will intrigue and excite each participant! The tour will include Woodlawn, Resurrection, Bethania and Bachelor Grove cemeteries, haunted North Riverside and Cermak & Harlem shopping malls, Willowbrook Ballroom and much more. Lunch at Subway is included.

Please call the Central Stickney Park District at 708.496.8292 for more information and to register.

Southwest Symphony Orchestra

On Sunday, October 6, at 4 p.m., Pianist Tomasz Robak will perform the Grieg Piano Concerto in A minor at Trinity Christian College Ozinga Chapel, 6601 W College Dr., Palos Heights.

Also on the program is Smetana's The Modau, Nimrod from Elgar's Enigma Variations, Ravel's Pavane for a Dead Princess and Four Dance Episodes from "Rodeo" by Copland. Call 708-802-0686 or visit www.southwestsymphony.com to purchase tickets and for more information.

Spook Houses, Ghost Tours, Haunted Trails, Oktoberfest's, advertise early in our October issues. Ask Linda for details at 708-425-1910 or www.vvnew.com.

We salute you

Calling all South and Southwest Suburban Cook County Veterans, Reservists and Military Personnel to attend a free patriot celebration.

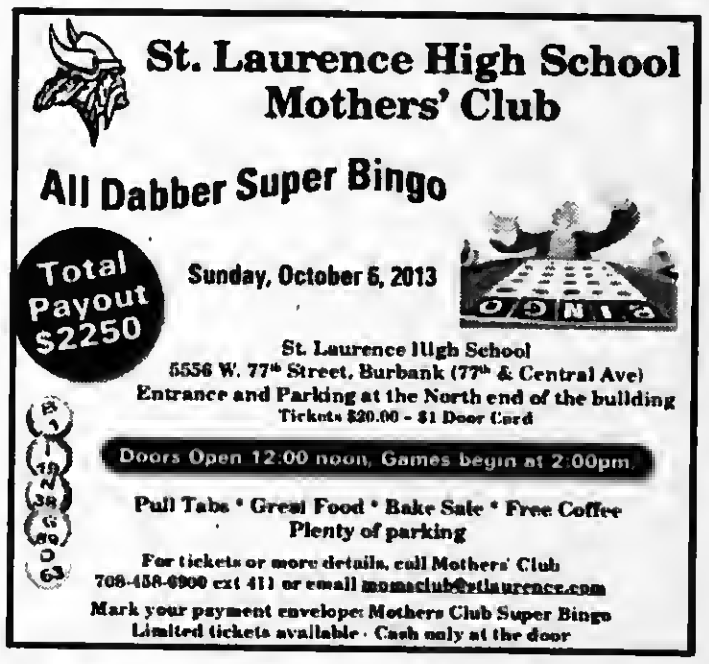
The 3nd Annual "Salute to our Armed Forces" will be held in the grand ballroom of the Double Tree Hotel by Hilton in Alsip located at 5000 W. 127th Street. All branches of serviceman and women will be honored for serving their Country with pride and dedication at a ceremony, Tuesday October 15, 2013 at 1 p.m. All Honorees must pre-register to attend.

A Free Patriotic celebration to salute our Armed Forces Service men and women. Share in an afternoon of fellowship and appreciation for your courage and dedication. Those that have served in the United States Armed Forces in war time and peace time will be honored for their contribution and saerifice to our great Nation.

This celebration is proudly presented by Cook County Commissioner Joan Patricia Murphy, Vitas Innovative Hospice Care, Dignity Memorial, and Double Tree Hotel by Hilton.

All branches of military service men and women will receive an Honorary "Salute Certificate" and custom designed Brass Commemorative Pin. The Ceremony will also include a Color Guard presentation, POW-MIA Remembrance Service, noted guest speaker Retired Col. Jill Morgenthaler and patriot entertainment. Refreshments will be served to all honorees and guests.

Registration is required, If you wish to be honored at this Patriot ceremony. You must register for the event. Please list your name, branch of serve, phone number, and number of guests attending. RSVP by Octoher 11th. Call Commissioner Joan Patricia Murphy's Office at 708-389-2125. Fax information to 708.389.2240



Oak Lawn Public Library announcements

The Beatles in the Seventies

Author Robert Rodriquez returns to depict the bitter breakup and subsequent efforts by all four ex-bandmates to establish their individual identities while laboring under the giant shadow of their collective past. Rare interviews, concert and promo clips, as well as film and comedy sketches on Tuesday, Sept. 24 at 7 p.m. at the Library.

Open Mic Readings

Local writers, share your original poetry and short stories on Wednesday, Sept. 25 at 7 p.m. at the Library. Five-minute time limit per reader. Light refreshments will be served.

Turning 65: Understanding Medicare Parts A & B and Supplemental Plans

Understanding Medicare Parts A & B and Supplemental Plans. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois will cover eligibility, and the benefits of Medicare Parts A and B and the standardized Medicare Supplemental Plans in Illinois on Friday, Sept. 27 at 2 p.m. at the Library.

Free Movie: "Mud"

The Library, will host a free movie screening of "Mud" on Monday, Sept. 30 at 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Two young boys encounter a fugitive and form a pact to help him evade the bounty hunters on his trail and to reunite him with his true love. 2012. PG-13. 130 min.

Slow Cooking: Volume II

Chef Kate Bradley will review several slow cooker recipes for asiago cheese and vegetable dip. Italian chicken, traditional stuffing outside the turkey, pulled pork and bread pudding on Thursday, Oct. 3 at 7 p.m. at the Library. The in-person registration begins on Saturday, Sept. 14. Fee: $5. Limit: 60

Friends of the Oak Lawn Library Trip: "Incredible Edibles"

The Friends of the Oak Lawn Library will host an "Incredible Edibles" bus trip on Thursday, Oct. 17. In-person registration begins Saturday, Sept. 14 at the Library from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

The tour begins with a one-hour visit to the Long Grove Confectionary Candy Factory in Buffalo Grove, complete with samples and time to shop in the outlet store. Enjoy a delicious deep dish pizza and Chicken Louie lunch at Lou Malnati's in Schaumburg. The visit concludes with a trip to Lynfred Winery in Roselle. Tour the cellars of this century old house and taste seven different fruits of the vine. Min: 30. Departs: 8:15 a.m. Returns: 4:15 p.m. Cost: $79 for members and $84 for others. Members must present a current membership card or receipt to receive the $5 discount. Two ticket limit. Please be advised that this trip is not wheelchair accessible.

Game Nights

For ages 11-13: Wednesday, Oct. 2 from 7-8:30 p.m. Registration is not required. Enjoy a variety of games including dancing, sports, and more on Wii, PlayStation and Xbox. Snacks will be provided.

Teens in Grades 8-12: Wednesday, Oct 9 from 7-8:30 p.m. Kinect and Wii games, DDR, even board games. Snacks and drinks will be provided. A new system will be unveiled in late fall.

Drop-In Firefighter Storytime (all ages)

October is Fire Prevention Month. Come and listen to an Oak Lawn firefighter read stories and talk to children about safety. Children will be able to examine equipment, ask questions and receive fire-related goodies at the Oak Lawn Public Library on Saturday, Oct. 5 from 10-11 a.m.

College Planning Workshop

College Funding Strategies will show you how to help your high school student choose the best college with the least amount of damage to the family's finances on Tuesday, Oct. 8 at 7 p.m. at the Library.

AARP Driver Safety Course

Drivers are 50 and up may receive reduced insurance rates after completing a course on Monday and Tuesday, Oct. 7 and 8 from 10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Library. Fee: $12 for AARP members and $14 for others. Present a current AARP card at enrollment for the discount. In-person registration has begun.

The library is located at 9427 S. Raymond Avenue, for more information visit www.oaklawnlibrary.org.

Moraine Valley to host fall Job and Internship Fair

Students, alumni and community members who are looking for hourly or salary jobs or paid or non-paid internships can network with quality employers that have job openings at Moraine Valley Community College's fall Job and Internship Fair on Thursday, September 26, from 2 to 5 p.m. The free fair will be in the Moraine Business and Conference Center, on campus, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills.

Professional business attire and resumés are required for entry. Registration is not required. A complete list of companies expected to attend the fair and additional information can be found at morainevalley.edu/jrc/fair or by calling the Job Resource Center at (708) 974-5737.

Borrow Medical Equipment at Orland Township

Purchasing medical equipment can be expensive, and Orland Township is happy to provide residents with an alternative option. Orland Township Health Services offers a medical equipment loan program to all Orland Township residents, as well as unincorporated Orland Township and Tinley Park residents. The Nurses' Closet allows residents in need to borrow a variety of medical equipment for a 60-day period.

For those in need of temporary equipment, including wheelchairs, crutches, canes, walkers, shower equipment and a variety of other items, the Nurses' Closet is a convenient option. Equipment is generously donated by members of the community. To borrow an item or to donate, call Orland Township at (708) 403-4222.

Bitty Basketball sessions at Blue Island Park District

The Blue Island Park District Bitty Basketball Fall 2013 session is now accepting players 10 years of age. Player must remain 10 years of age throughout the season.

Registrations are now being taken Monday through Satruday only at the Memorial Park Field House located at 12804 S. Highland Ave. Blue Island, IL. or 24/7 at http://www.blueislandparks.org/

Blue Island Park District's Bitty Basketball program is a collaborative effort between the Blue Island Park District and Beyond the Arc Academy. BTAA is an accredited youth basketball organization that focuses on developing individual skills. Their trained counselors help develop fundamental skills as well as the value of team play. If you're serious about the growth of your child's basketball skills, then this instructional league is for you.

8 weeks of Saturday session September 21st through November 9th.

Register Online or visit our website www.blueislandparks.org

Call for more information 708-385-3304.

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The SOUTHWEST SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

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The Moldau	Smetana
Piano Concerto in A minor	Grieg
	Tomasz Robak, soloist
Nimrod from Enigma Variations	Elgar
Pavane for a Dead Princess	Ravel
Four Dance Episodes from Rodeo	Copland

Sunday, October 6, 2013, at 4:00 p.m.
Ozinga Auditorium of Trinity Christian College
6601 W. College Dr. (Rt. 83), Palos Heights

Adults $20-$25
Seniors (65+) $15-20
Students $5
Children 12 and under free!

ARTS

Musichorale announces its annual Scholarship Contests for amateur vocalists and instrumentalists

Vocal competition will be held for High School students on Saturday, Oct. 26, 2013 at 10 a.m. The instrumental contest for students in grades 6-12 will be held on Saturday, March 1, 2014 at 10 a.m. at the Oak Lawn Community Church, 9000 S. Ridgeland, Oak Lawn , Ill.

Awards: More than $3,500 in prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place winners. First place winners will also be featured soloists at one of Musichorale's annual concerts.

Application fee is $25. Vocal applications must be postmarked by Oct. 10, 2013. Instrumental applications must be postmarked by Feb. 15, 2014. The public is invited free of charge. For further information, or to download applications and rules, visit our website www.musichorale.org or call our 24-hour number at (312) 409-6661. Please e-mail any questions to mescholarship@gmail.com.

Palos Park offering Spanish classes for seniors and children

Are you taking a vacation to a Spanish-speaking country? Have you always wanted to learn another language, but never had the chance? Here's the perfect opportunity! Learning a foreign language is a great opportunity to keep your mind active while broadening your horizons. In this relaxed, small-class environment you will learn conversational Spanish, as well as some Spanish grammar and phonetics. Spanish For Seniors will be taught by Language in Action, Inc. on Fridays beginning Sept. 27 through Dec. 6 from 9 a.m. until 10 a.m. (no class Nov. 29). Fee is $125 for residents of Palos Park, $140 for unincorporated Palos Park residents, and $145 for non residents.

Did you know that young children learn language naturally and much more easily than older children and adults? Introduce your child to the Spanish language in this Spanish immersion class developed especially for very young learners. Children will be immersed in the Spanish language through fun and educational activities and music. Each session introduces new and exciting topics. ¡Hola! Spanish Classes for Kids ages three to six will also be taught by Language in Action, Inc. on Fridays beginning Sept. 27 through Oct. 25 and Nov. 1 through Dec. 6 from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. (no class Nov. 29). Fee is $62.50 for residents of Palos Park, $77.50 for unincorporated residents of Palos Park and $82.50 for non residents.

Both classes will be held at the Palos Park Recreation Center located at 8901 W. 123rd St. in Palos Park, Ill. Register today to ensure a seat. For additional information, call 708-671-3760.

Jazzercise offers complimentary fitness classes during Free Days September 23 to 29

Who said nothing in life is free? Jazzercise, the world's leading dance fitness program, is offering free dance fitness classes the week of Sept. 23-29, no strings attached! New customers are invited to pick one free day of their choice to try Jazzercise in Chicago, Mt. Greenwood, Oak Lawn, and Chicago Ridge.

Each 60-minute Jazzercise group fitness class offers a fun and effective total body workout that includes a combination of dance, resistance training, Pilates, yoga, kickboxing and Latin-style movements set to today's popular hit music. Jazzercise participants can burn up to 600 calories per class.

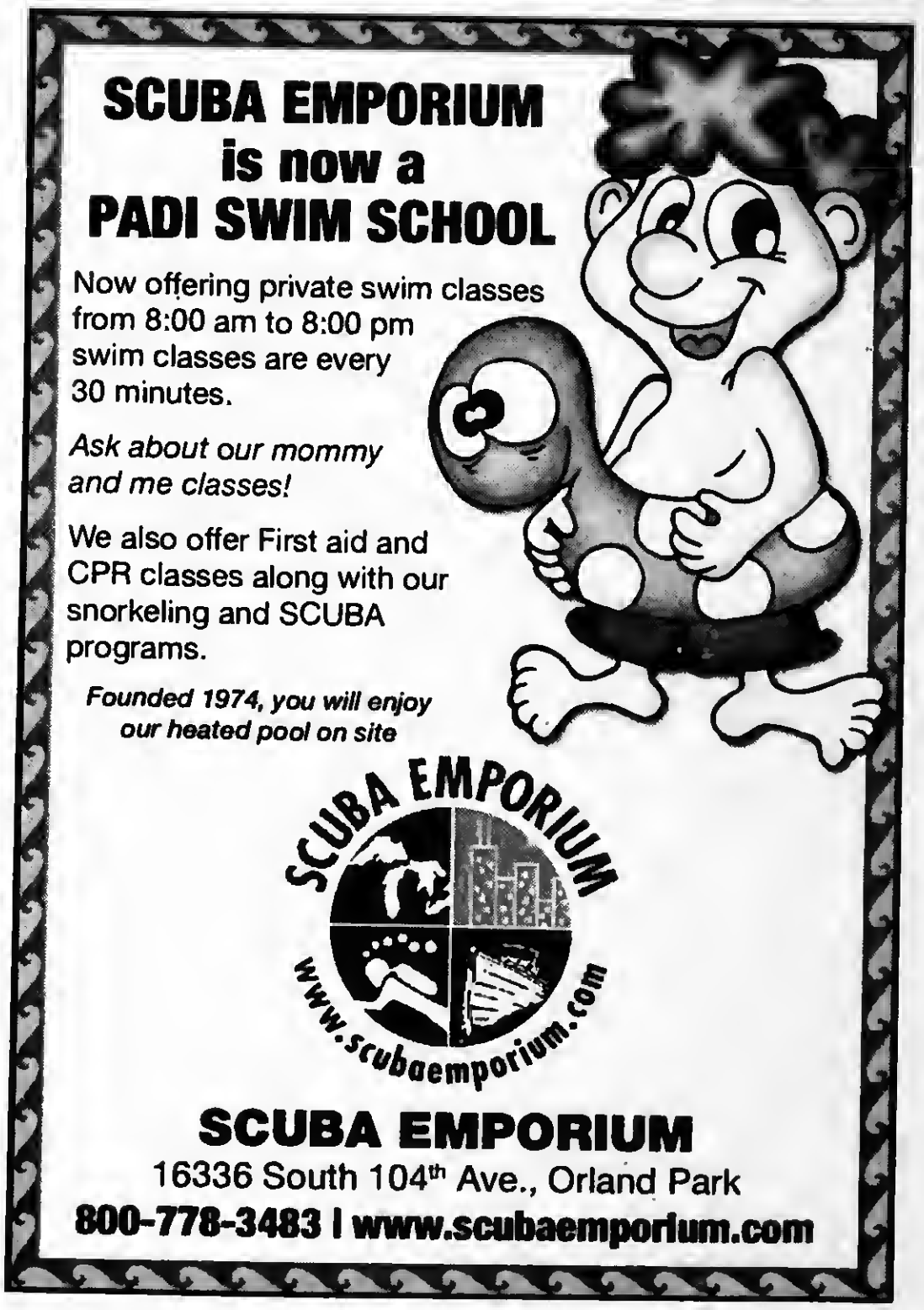
"Walk into a Jazzercise class on any given day and you could hear Pitbull, Jennifer Lopez, Maroon 5 and Taylor Swift," said local Jazzercise instructor Cindy Lunz. "It's this variety of music mixed with current dance movements that make Jazzercise feel more like a girl's night out than a workout."

For those who have never attended a Jazzercise class, Jazzercise instructors ensure customers don't miss a beat with step-by-step instruction and technique tips. New customers can learn the basic moves at home by clicking Learn the Moves.

Free Days participants can take advantage of a 50 percent off joining fee offer with electronic auto payment sign-up after the free trial. Current customers who refer a friend during Free Days receive $20 cash when their friend registers. Free Days is valid at participating locations worldwide to customers who have not attended class in six months or longer.

Jazzercise in Chicago, Mt. Greenwood is located at the Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences, 3857 W. 111th Street, in Oak Lawn at Grace Church, 10415 S. Kedvale and in Chicago Ridge, at the Chicago Ridge Mall by Little Company of Mary Health Education Center. For further information and a class schedule, go to jazzercise.com or call (800)FIT-IS-IT 773-238-7716.

Calling all Schools & Day Cares, advertise your Open Houses with us. Call Linda at 708-425-1910 or visit www.vvnew.com



University of Chicago Bond Chapel will hold four new music concerts

The Renaissance Society presents an international new music concert series in conjunction with its group exhibition Suicide Narcissus. Sept. 15-Dec. 15. 2013, featuring a lineup of musicians who will expose Chicagoans to dynantic compositions, instruments and techniques at the leading edge of new music rarely showcased in the city. Four concerts from October to November will showcase the work of artists hailing from the United States, Germany and Japan. including: improvisational German trumpeter Birgit Ulher with Eric Leonardson (Oct. 8 at 8 p.m.); electro-acoustic chamber music outfit Gene Coleman and Ensemble N_JP (Oct. 23 at 8 p.m.); Chicago-based flutist Lisa Goethe-McGinn (Nov. 10 at 2 p.m.); and Japenese shamisen performers Yoko Reikano Kimura and Yumiko Tanaka (Nov. 13 at 8 p.m.). The musicians' work oscillates between the traditional and the contemporary, prohing noise and silence equally, shifting between reactive improvisation and studied composition.

All four concerts will be held in the University of Chicago's Bond Chapel, an icon of the American Gothic revival period with a vaulting space and distinctive acoustics. The Renaissance Society's musical performances, exhibitions, lectures and additional programs are free and open to the public. For more information please visit www.renaissancesociety.org.

BIRGIT ULHER, trumpet, with ERIC LEONARDSON, electronies and assorted devices Tuesday, October 8 at 8 p.m.

Writing about her performances for trumpet. critic Johan Redin referred to Ulher's work as "extremely minimalistic and fragmented music [that is] as strange as it [is] fascinating and intellectually insisting." Manipulating the instrument through the use of splitting sounds, multiphonics. granular sounds. and silence. Ulher improvises pieces that test the limits of aural pereeption. Visual art. moreover, is a major interest of the musician; in 2007, Ulher partnered with the artists Allora & Calzadilla to record one of 9 versions of Reveille played as part of their sculptural installation Wake Up shown at The Renaissanee Society. Leonardson is a Chicago-based performer and composer. The dynamie between Ulher and Leonardson will not revolve around push-pull call-response sequences as much as layers. textures and striations punetuated by abrupt bursts or nucleic moments like knots of wood set within a bypnotic grain.

GENE COLEMAN and ENSEMBLE N_JPWednesday, October 23 at 8 p.m.

Coleman's sensibility is aleatoric in nature. The specific instrumentation is not important so long as there is a combination of electronic. acoustic, and non-western traditional elements. N_JP is an electro-acoustic chamber music outfit featuring musicians from Japan, wholly steeped in traditinnal instruments, such as the sho (mouth organ). koto. or shamisen. (banjo). set alongside electronics, and traditional western classical instruments (cello, bass clarinet). Coleman's compositions are Feldmanesque in their stasis, privileging duration over discrete note events so as to dissolve binaries such as East/West, tradition/avant-garde. Sendai Transmissions is a new composition by Coleman. It is performed with accompanying video featuring a strong architecture component.

LISAGOETHE-MCGINN, flute Sunday, November 10 at 2 p.m.

Chicago-based Goethe-McGinn will perform selections from Salvatore Sciarrino's L'Opera per flauto I & II, a focused and refined work composed of micro-variations on sound structures and silence. Goethe-McGinn is one of the few musicians in Chicago with Sciarrino's challenging work in her repertoire, making this performance a rarity in the city in particular, and, in fact, the entire country.

YUMIKOTANAKA and YOKO REIKANO KIMURA, shamisen

Wednesday, November 13 at 8 p.m.

This duo seamlessly spans the depths of tradition and the heights of experimentation. In its 400 year history. the shamisen. a sister to the banjo, has been subject to degrees of refinement so that there should be no unturned stones within its repertoire. Paying full homage to those stones one moment, Tanaka and Kimura will kick them the next.

Tanaka in particular has made a name for herself within new music cireles having collaborated with the likes of Otomo Yoshihide, Uchihashi Kazuhisa, Elliott Sharp. Samm Bennett. David Moss. Carl Stone. Ned Rothenberg and John Zom. No matter how harsh her attack. it is always precise and usually sustained to the point of heeoming exquisite.

The hill will feature a range of work. Of note will be Yuji Takahashi's Sugagaki Kuzusbi, a haunting double shamisen and voice composition belonging to a genre of music to accompany Noh theater.

The Renaissance Society, located on the campus of the University of Chicago at 5811 S. Ellis Avenue. is an internationally renowned non-collecting museum of contemporary art.

Through exhibitions. commissions, publications, and interdisciplinary education programming. The Renaissance Society advances the growth and understanding of the artistie ideas and expressions of our time.

The museum is free and open to the puhlic Tuesday-Friday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from Noon-5 p.m. Please check The Renaissance Society wehsite for specific schedule; the museum is closed between exhibitions. For more information on The Renaissance Society. phone 773-702-8670 or visit www.renaissancesociety.org.

Special needs for a special little girl

Attention Readers: As publisher of Village View Publications. Inc. I would like all to know that Brandon Gillespie is our part time graphic artist and has been with us for over 8 years. This is a legitimate request from the family. Please see what you can do for this family.

Take up a collection at work, or if your company has matching funds. or if you want to just donate what you can, please use the wehsite http://cota.donorpages.com/PatientOnlineDonation/COTAforAriannaG

A Message from Brandon:

As some of you may or may not know. our daughter. Arianna Gillespie recently went through a Liver Transplant surgery at 17 months old.

On July 29th 2013, Arianna was not feeling well so we took her to the hospital. Eventually it was determined that she had acute liver failure & hone marrow suppression. It is not known what caused her liver to fail and with no treatment availahle, it was determined that she would need a liver transplant. A day after she was put on the national donor list. a liver was available and a team of surgeons and doctors that night flew to Cleveland to inspect and bring back the liver early the following moming. While we do not know nor may we ever know any information about the donor, we are all grateful beyond words for this miraculous gift. We will always remember that this gift eame ahout as a result of another family's loss. and we honor that family daily in our thoughts and prayers for giving our sweet daugbter another chance.

On August 6th, 2013. Arianna underwent transplant surgery at Lurie's Children's Hospital. We were told that the surgery on average takes anywhere from eight to ten hours. Surgery went so well in the OR and the transplant was done in under five hours. Afterwards. she spent two days in the Intensive Care Unit and then spent an additional weeks at the hospital where she was monitored closely to make sure that she was progressing. After she was discharged. we had to stay close to the hospital in case of an emergency along with frequent doctor visits. We were able to stay at the Ronald McDonald House down the street for the next three weeks. Although there were a few bumps along the way, the operation was a success! We, mom and dad. never left her side during this entire time and she was visited by many family members and friends who helped us get through this time.

We eame home officially on Tuesday, September 3rd and she is feeling better. Her doctors are all impressed on how well and quiekly she is recovering- but that is just the beginning of her story. Besides always needing medication for the transplant. she gets to look forward to many doctor visits, lab tests and monitoring in the upcoming years. The doctor visits, lah tests and monitoring will hopefully decrease if all goes as planned.

With the cost of a transplant often exceeding $500,000. many transplant families are unable to shoulder the financial burden of such a procedure. The Children's Organ Transplant Association (COTA) is a national charity dedicated to organizing and guiding communities in raising funds for transplant-related expenses.

We and her "community helpers" are working with COTA in raising funds fnr her. We have set a goal of $50,000.00 for current expenses. as well as lifetime expenses that she will incur. All donations are fully tax deductihle and are administered hy COTA. and there are no administrative costs. Also, 100% of all money raised goes directly to Arianna. to be used by her and her family's transplant related expenses - not only the current expenses incurred so far. hut nlso any future known, and unknown. expenses.

Any donation would greatly be appreciated and very helpful. We understand the times and the struggles many families have. so even at this time your are unahle to make a financial donation. just passing this message along to your friends. family and co-workers through email. or a post on facebook. it would truly he greatly appreciated.

Donations can be made at the following address: http://cota.donorpages.com/PatientOnlineDonation/COTAforAriannaG

We truly appreciate all of your help through this and all the love and support we have received. With much love. from our family to yours. Arianna. Anetta & Brandon Gillespie.

The NSCCA in Arlington Heights announces up coming concerts

Beginning its 66th Award Winning Year of providing professional entertainment to the Northwest Suhurbs. NorthWest Suhurban Community Concert Association recently presented the return to Arlington Heights of The Northwest Suburhan Community Concert Association. in partnership with District 214 Community Education's opening Concert of the 2013-2014 Season featured THE FOUR ACES at Forest View Educational Center Theate. 2121 S. Goebbert Road. Arlington Heights. IL 60005

The upcoming AHCCA Coneerts in the 2013-2014 Season are on Sunday. October 27. 2013 Daniel Narducci - Broadway Baritone

Sunday, November 10, 2013 The St. Luke's Bottle Band

Sunday. February 9, 2014 West End Jazz Band

Sunday. April 6, 2014 Music of The Carpenters - Starring Lisa Rock and her BandWe encourage you to visit our wehsite: http://www.nscommunityconcerts.org/

NSCCA contact:

Don Diersen dondiersen@yaboo.com

District 214 contact: doug.martin@214.org

Double Trouble is a Chicago Premiere at Stage 773

by Annette Dixon

Porchlight Music Theatre has subscriptions still available for its 19 season.

Adrian Aguilar and Alexander Aguilar are brothers, not only good to look at but very gifted young men. Talented enough to carry this musical and farce so that there are quite a few laughs throughout the play.

Their action and movements were a delight to envision. In the 1940's two song and dance brothers get the career making opp

The Aguilar brothers play more than 10 characters in this hilarious, quick change, tap dancing musical comedy, that celebrates the crazy days of making the movie musicals that featured the likes of Gene Kelly, Danny Kaye and Donald O'Connor.

Come out to see this one and see why Adrian was selected to understudy the main part in a musical version of Rocky on Broadway in February, 2014 in New York.

This talented September 9th. birthday young man has a wife, baby and new position on Broadway. Congratulations, you earned it.

Season subscriptions are available at porchlightmusictheatre.org or by phone at 773-777-9884, or single tickets may be purchased at stage773.com or by phone at 773-327-5252. Porchlight Music Theater can be seen at Stage 773, 1225 West Belmont Ave., Chicago, IL.

Arsenic and Old Lace to be performed at the Oak Lawn Park District

The Oak Lawn Park District Theatre production of "Arsenic and Old Lace" will be running at the Oak View Center, 4625 W. 110th St., on Fridays, September 20 and September 27 and on Saturdays, September 21 and September 28, at 8:00 p.m. Shows will also be on Sundays, September 22 and September 29, at 3:00 p.m.

Tickets for this production are $18 and are available for purchase at the Oak View Center. To order tickets or for more information, please call 708-857-2200.

Broadway In Chicago added two weeks

Broadway In Chicago is thrilled to announce that TO MASTER THE ART, by William Brown and Doug Frew, has been extended by popular demand and will play an additional two weeks at the Broadway Playhouse at Water Tower Place (175 E. Chestnut). The six week engagement began Sep. 10 and will run through Oct. 20, 2013.

Six of the 10 cast members are returning from the TimeLine production: Karen Janes Woditsch and Craig Spidle return to the roles of Julia and Paul Child. Other returning cast members include Jeannie Affelder, Ian Paul Custer, TimeLine Associate Artist Terry Hamilton and TimeLine Company Member Juliet Hart, now joined by Sam Ashdown, TimeLine Company Member Janet Ulrich Brooks, Heidi Kettenring and Brian Plocharczyck.

Commissioned by TimeLine Theatre Company, TO MASTER THE ART received its world premiere at TimeLine in 2010, receiving more than 20 rave reviews and five Jeff Award nominations, including New Work and Production. The play recalls the adventure and romance of Julia and Paul Child's journey of discovery to Paris during the 1950s.

From the bistro where Julia fell in love with food, to the kitchen table where she recreated everything learned during cooking class, to a room where Paul was grilled by U.S. agents about alleged Communist contact, this is the epic love story of a larger-than-life culinary icon and her remarkable husband as they struggle to find themselves as Americans abroad. Tickets are available at all Broadway In Chicago Box Offices, the Broadway In Chicago Ticket Kiosk at Water Tower Place (845 N. Michigan Ave.)

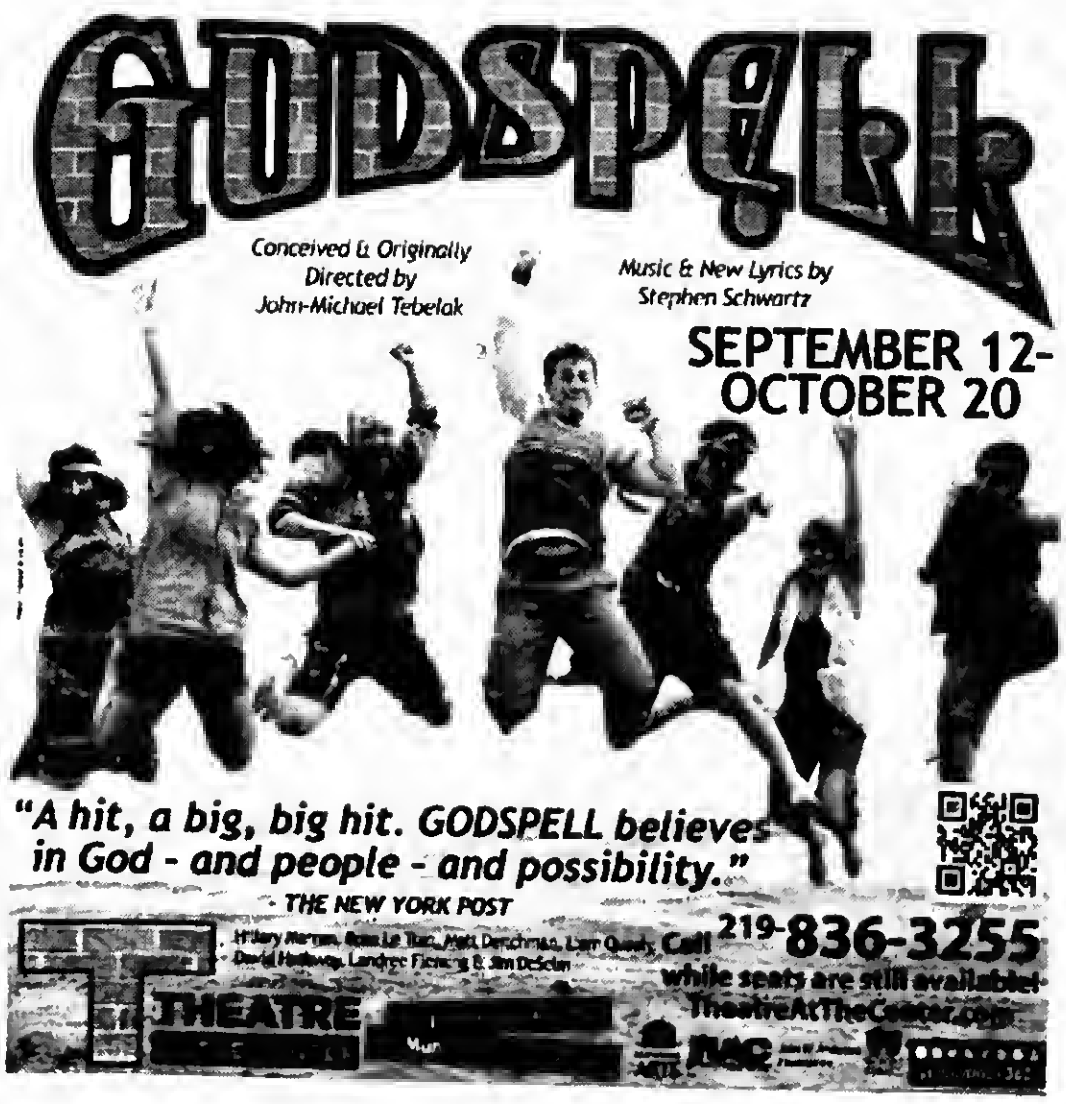
Matt Brumlow as Hank Williams,Sr. This musical production is playing until October 6 and performances are on Thurs., Fri., Sat. 7:30 pm and Sun. 2:30, tickets start at $19 to $49. Use the Code word "ENCORE" for $5 off the ticket price. Greenhouse Theater Center is located at the old Victory Garden on 2257 N. Lincoln Ave. Chicago. Call the Box Office, 773-404-7336, or visit americanbluestheater.com

Drury Lane presents the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra for two days

The Drury Lane celebrates the Swing Music era with the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra on Monday, October 28, at 1:30 p.m. and Tues. October 29 at 1:30 p.m.

THE TOMMY DORSEY ORCHESTRA was revived in the 1970s and has continued to perform for decades.

Show-only tickets are $55. Lunch and show tickets are $70. Subscriber and group discounts are available. For reservations, call the Drury Lane Theatre box office at 630.530.0111, or TicketMaster at 800.745.3000. For more information, visit www.drurylane.com.



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Tall Grass Arts Association presents:
The 58th Annual
PARK FOREST ART FAIR
Downtown Park Forest
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Fine Art, Music and Food
TALL GRASS ARTS ASSOCIATION

Fall Arts & Craft Show
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6034 W. 77th Street, Burbank
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Park Forest gears up for historic annual arts event

Boasting a rich history and wealth of gifted artists, along with status as one of the Southland's most valued annual treasures, the Park Forest Art Fair, sponsored by Tall Grass Arts Association, this month celebrates its 58th year. Sept. 21 and 22, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm, in Downtown Park Forest on the Village Green.

The artists come from as far as California and Florida. And they hail from all over the metropolitan area, especially the South Suburbs including Chicago Heights, Crete, Frankfort, Glenwood, Homewood and Kankakee. More arrive from Matteson, Monee, Olympia Fields, Peotone, South Holland, Tinley Park and of course, Park Forest.

"This is the second oldest juried art fair in the Chicagoland region and it has maintained its quality over the years," event Chairwoman Janet Muchnik said. Muchnik emphasized the juried event always attracts a variety of talents, "some new artists and many who have exhibited continuously for nearly four decades.

"Fair visitors have a tradition here of talking with the artists and in fact, the artists expect people to stop by and chat.

"Our art fair is recognized as very artist-friendly." Muchnik continued. "Exhibitors receive ongoing assistance from volunteers before, during and after the fair. Volunteers also operate the information booth where visitors can pick up maps showing each artist's fair location.

As a not-for-profit event with a huge volunteer force, costs to art-

(continued on page 11)

Classified

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(continued from page 10)

ists are very low. "Consequently, they can sell their works at very reasonable prices. This is the fair where people can buy originals for very reasonable prices."

The eclectic nature of the fair is quickly visible to visitors who will see ceramics, etchings, sculpture, photographs, paintings in many media, digital art works, jewelry featuring original elements, and hand-blown glass. A glass blower will demonstrate this ancient art.

A vast range of activities always delight the younger set, including the almost legendary Children's Art Contest, tie dyeing, mural painting and a huge favorite, face painting.

A musical potpourri, sponsored by the village, fills Saturday's fair hours and fest favorite Patchouli, a popular Chicagoland folk duo, performs Sunday with a performance by the Grande Prairie Choral Arts group at 1:00 p.m. Food vendors will be on site as well.

The acclaimed Tall Grass Arts Association Gallery, 367 Artists Walk in Downtown, will be open during the fair with a traditional summer exhibit of works by gallery artists.

More information is online at www.tallgrassarts.org, on the Tall Grass Facebook page and by calling the gallery, 708-748-3377.

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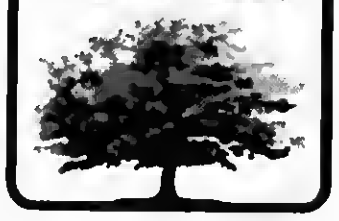

Village View Publications
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We travel on Trinity's Bus and have a great time together. There are a few spots available for this trip, if interested please contact Linda Bensen at Trinity Lutheran in Oak Lawn – 708-422-0193.

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Come travel with Trinity Lutheran Church in Oak Lawn the week of September 19-27, 2014. Itinerary will include New York City with sightseeing, Halifax, Nova Scotia, St. John, Bay of Fundy, Bar Harbor, Maine, Boston, MA, and Newport, RI. Prices are from $1700 based on double occupancy, which includes cruise, taxes, transfers, hotel, gratuities and airfare. Travel arrangements are being made with World Travel Mart in Oak Lawn. Spaces are limited; deposit is due by October 10, 2013. For more information, please contact Linda Bensen at Trinity Lutheran in Oak Lawn – 708-422-0193.

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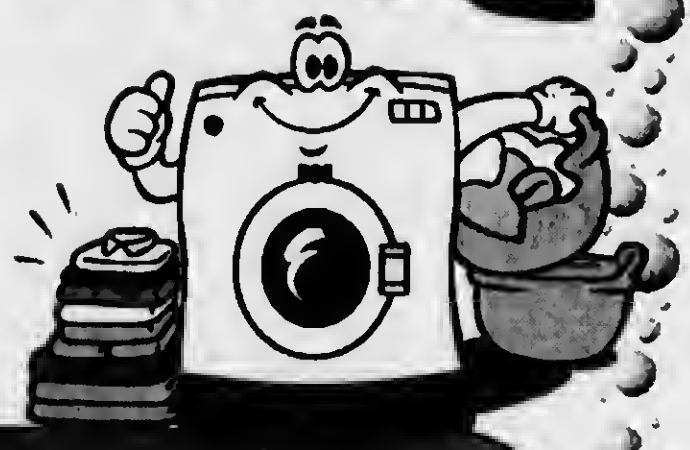

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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 40 | Number 7 | October 1, 2013

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

Hickory Hills Officials question Employee Insurance

by Jan Glaz

On September 26th at the Hickory Hills City Council Meeting Alderman John Szeszycki opened a lengthy discussion. Time was running out and a decision had to be made in regards to renewing health insurance for city employees. The council had to decide between renewing on the basis of a fiscal year, a July 1st contract, or a calendar year; January to January. Blue Cross Blue Shield expected an answer from the city the following day, Friday, September 27th. City Treasurer, Dan Schramm, reminded council that deductibles are always based on a calendar year and that last year when the city desired to revise plan limits and/or benefits they had to extend the renewal date as not to subject employees to an increased deductible in mid-year. Referring to the calendar year contract, Treasurer Schramm stated that it allows the city to be flexible in the future. "This has nothing to do with the Affordable Care Act," stressed Schramm. "This is strictly city to city." The Treasurer informed the council that he was advised by the insurance underwriter that the city could not go to Blue Cross Blue Shield and ask for a quote based on the calendar year because once that quote is given, it's final. Changing to a calendar year would entail an increase where the city pays 75% and the employees pay 25% as of January 1st. Schramm cited that the same increase, and maybe higher, would take effect July 1st of next year. "I say that we should change (to a calendar year) even though by changing we accelerate an increase six months sooner," said Schramm. A show of hands by officials, favored the calendar year.

Meeting . Endnotes: Mayor Mike Howley offered advice to a resident during the public portion of the council meeting. The resident was having an ongoing complaint with Waste Management and noted that a certain driver was not picking up various trash items. In the latest incident the employee picked up grass clippings but refused to pick- up a small tree stump. The employee allegedly broke the can; placed a sticker on the can that read 'place can on curb for service', then moved the can down the alley. Another resident in the same vicinity was also having a similar problem. "If it happens again," said Mayor Howley, "don't bother calling Waste Management at the 1-800 number, call me or someone in the clerk's office." Second Ward Alderman, Deborah Ferrero; happily reported to the council that she had entered the Hickory Hills Garden Contest this year and won a $300.00 gift certificate to Golden Gate.

Oak Lawn Park District's annual Spookview event

The Oak Lawn Park District's annual, family-friendly Spookview event is lurking right around the corner! Join in all the festivities geared for children ages 2 to 10 on Saturday, October 19th, from 1:00 to 5:00pm, at the Oak View Center located at 4625 W. 110th St.

Children may come dressed in costume and participate in the parade at 1:00pm. Please meet in the main lobby.

After the parade, the fun will continue with spooky activities that include a Spookywalk, cookie decorating, ghoulish games, train ride, bounce houses, tote decorating for the troops, dance performances at 2:30pm and 3:30pm from our very own "IndepenDance" Dance Team, and more!

Purchase a $10 wristband for all activities (some activity restrictions may apply with wristband. Cash, Visa and MasterCard are accepted). Concessions will be available with cash only.

Children should bring their own trick-or-treat containers to hold prizes/treats. Parking is available in the West lot, off of Kilpatrick, or on Kilpatrick and 110th St.

Want to volunteer at Spookview? Individuals must be 13 years of age or older. For more volunteering information, please contact Chris Tiesch at 708-857-2200 by Friday, October 11th.

For more information on Spookview, please contact 708-857-2200.

Justice President urges residents to seek authorization

by Jan Glaz

At the Public Comments portion of the Village of Justice President and Board of Trustees Meeting held on September 23rd President Kris Wasowicz emphasized contacting him or Ken White of the Public Works Department for authorization in regards to residents tackling home projects and asking for either materials or labor from village employees.

The announcement followed a complaint by a resident who noticed Justice Public Works vehicles and materials being used on her neighbor's driveway that in turn left chunks of toxic grinding materials on her pro perty, which is in a flood zone; work done in flood zones entail particular caution. The Mayor agreed that the work and materials were unauthorized and mentioned that village on occasion does work for a resident but the President or the Building Department must be notified before village employees and materials are involved. "We try to help every resident but when things happen that are not authorized, a problem starts," said the President.

Public Works Director Ken White explained details surrounding a resolution passed by the board, authorizing document processing authority and engineering services for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Capital Improvement Projects. Ken White disclosed that for the CDBG project the village is using emergency road funds from the state of Illinois for matching funds and because the village is using matching funds in that manner a resolution is required to the authorize the use of those funds through IDOT processes which include assigning an engineer and a resident engineer. It is also required that the President and the Clerk sign the initial documentation of the original contracts as well as Ken White signing documentation as the village processes the grants, as this is a $168,000 project from the county.

A motion carried before the meeting adjourned for a Petition recommended by the Zoning & Planning Commission to consolidate two lots into one, then re-subdivide into two lots the properties known as 8527 W. 79th Street and 7921 S. 85th Court contingent upon conditions which include that the properties retain current zoning; the single family house at 7921 S. 85th Court must be successfully demolished within 1 year from the date of April 15, 2013 and the plat of Subdivision must then be recorded; and then within 1 year of the recording of the Plat of Subdivision, a permit must be obtained and construction must commence on a Single-family home or a permit must be obtained and the existing garage must be demolished.

Are you hosting a costume contest?
Advertise it in our October 15th issue.
Call Linda at 708-425-1910 for more information.

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 19 | October 1, 2013

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

$2.2 Million Tax Rebate for Orland residents

by Jan Glaz

Orland Park officials reinstated the residential property tax rebate on September 16th with the approval of an Ordinance Providing for Reimbursement of $2.2 million of the Village Share of Real Estate Property Taxes paid by Owner-Occupants of Residential Real Estate in the Village of Orland; and to distribute the $2.2 million rebate evenly amongst all applicants. The cost of the rebate program operations is reported to be $88,000. It is the last year the rebate will be offered. The reinstatement of the rebate program requires a decrease in total budgeted revenues in the amount of $1,468,652 and a decrease in total budgeted expenditures in the amount of $1,305,028. The funding sources to accomplish the program consist of an excess fund balance in the home rule sales tax fund in the amount of $167,000 and projects budgeted in fiscal year 2013 that have savings in the amount of $1,045,900; also savings from projects that will be postponed for one or more fiscal years in the amount of $1,075,000. Residents should receive the rebate in March 2014. "The rebate isn't quite as much as last year, said Mayor McLaughlin. "We're very happy we still can do it."

A new official became official when Dan Calandriello, a resident of Orland Park, received a unanimous vote. He will be sworn in as Trustee at the next Village of Orland Park Board of Trustees meeting, October 7th. Calandriello is accepting the seat vacated by Brad O'Halloran. Mayor Dan McLaughlin had suggested the 28-year- old Cook County Assistant State's Attorney for the position. "Hopefully my involvement will add a fresh perspective on village business. I have 28 years of being a resident here. The key thing is I wanted to give back to the community that gave me so much." said Calandriello.

Newsworthy approvals: The Village is participating in a public municipal auction to be conducted by the Southwest Conference of Mayors. The public auction is for disposal of surplus and/or obsolete municipal property. In order to legally dispose of municipal property, the Village adopted an ordinance that describes the items to be sold. The auction will be held on Saturday, October 5, 2013. Money generated from this sale will go into the general fund; an increase in the number of Class A liquor licenses from fifty-eight (58) to fifty-nine (59) was granted for Uncle Julio's Fine Mexican Food, located at 15845 South LaGrange Road.

Board of Trustees adopted a resolution for 2013 recognizing Fire Prevention Week beginning October 6th in the Village of Tinley Park and urged all citizens to join with the coordinated effort of the Tinley Park Fire Department and Tinley Park Fire Prevention Bureau to provide effective, educational and related fire prevention programs and to provide a safe place to live and work by eliminating fire hazards. Fire prevention is as important for safety as fire suppression in protecting the community. Fire Prevention week is always scheduled to coincide with the anniversary of the Great Chicago Fire of 1871.

An important contract for professional services with the Site Design Group (SDG) related to the Emerald Ash Borer Program (EAB) met with full board approval, before the meeting adjourned. The contract, in an amount not to exceed $88,920, allows SDG to assist the Village with the overall management of the EAB program. The anticipated cost was $120,000. The Village lowered the cost by around $30,000 as a result of the favorable pricing on tree removal costs. All four quadrants of the Village's bid specs are awarded to one contractor Homer Tree Care of Lockport, IL at a cost not exceed $1,423,567.50.

Prestigious Gold Whistle Award presented to Tinley Park resident

by Jan Glaz

Coach William LeMonnier, a Tinley Park resident, also known as the Head Big Ten Football Official was recognized with a proclamation at the Village of Tinley Park Board of Trustees meeting on September 17th. William was recently awarded the most prestigious award for all football officials across the world, not just the country. He is the recipient of the 2013 NASO Gold Whistle Award and has been called one of the best college football referees in the country. Mr. LeMonnier moved from youth football (1973-1977), to varsity high school (1978-1979), to colleges (1980-1993), to NCAA Division I in 1993. He worked on the Arena Football League staff from 2000-2008, he also worked 13 post-season games, including the 2011 BCS National Championship (August 22, Oregon 19) and the Fiesta, Orange and Cotton Bowls. Coach LeMonnier was represented by Edward J. Zabrocki, President of the Village of Tinley Park, Cook and Will Counties, Illinois, the Village Board of Trustees and over 58,000 citizens who proclaimed their deepest and warm congratulations on all his accomplishments and being awarded with such a high honor.

The President and the

The staff at FullServ Auto Care (left to right) Sandy Hart, Owner Susan Khattab, Ricardo Pina, Racan Khattab, Dan Kelly, Alex Pina, and Martin Alferez proudly presents a donation of $1000 to the Pediatric Oncology Treasure Chest Foundation at the FullServ Auto Care facility.

FullServ Auto Care in Oak Forest serves children and teens fighting cancer

When we think of auto care, we normally think of brakes, struts, shocks and exhausts, but FullServ Auto Care in Oak Forest hosted an exhausting drive recently that shocked the Pediatric Oncology Treasure Chest Foundation (POTCF) by raising more than $1000 for children and teens fighting cancer.

The POTCF is a non-profit organization that provides comfort and distraction from painful procedures to children and teens diagnosed with cancer by providing a toy, gift or gift card in 45 hospitals across 16 states nationwide. And as a trusted provider of complete auto repair services, FullServ Auto Care takes pride in providing solutions to automotive needs—rather than merely replacing parts—by delivering quality products and dependable service at reasonable rates.

To encourage their customers' participation in the drive, FullServ Auto Care raffled off gift cards for auto repair services at their facility along with a variety of promotion services.

FullServ Auto Care Owner Susan Khattab drew inspiration from the battles her family members and a friend fought against cancer in finding the motivation to help the POTCF. "I learned a lot about cancer by watching my parents die from the disease within 128 days of each other," explained Ms. Khattab. "And I lost my best friend to cancer just last month. So when the Treasure Chest Foundation became one of our customers, we partnered together for kids fighting cancer. We then asked each of our 30000 customers to support our endeavor."

If you would like further information about the Treasure Chest Foundation, please contact Colleen Kisel at 708-687-TOYS (8697) or visit the Foundation's web site at www.treasurechest.org.

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SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 14 | Number 19 | October 1, 2013

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Palos Hills to draft ordinance to protect children while soliciting

by Matt Mayer

Officials at the Sept 26 Palos Hills City Council meeting requested the village attorney to draft an ordinance to protect children while soliciting for fund raisers at intersections through out the city. There currently are no provisions to the municipal code regarding soliciting. A discussion at a recent committee meeting pertaining to the risks posed to solicitors, especially minors, by motorists as well as a potential liability issue to the city sparked the request.

After discussing whether children should participate in soliciting for fundraisers, the city council decided that it wouldn't be fair to prohibit children under eighteen years of age to participate since scout troops, student groups at Stagg High School and sports teams often solicit to raise funds. Mayor Gerald Bennett said. "It's a civil right and people are entitled to do it". Village Attorney George Pappas concurred with Bennett and said. "If someone were to get hurt soliciting without the permission of the city, then the city would be liable for not stopping them".

An amendment, to be implemented into the ordinance, which states that an adult must accompany any child under eighteen years of age, was approved. Trustee Joan Knox said a responsible party needs to be present if an accident were to occur. "Most of the groups who regularly apply for permits for fundraisers have insurance" said Knox.

The drafting of the ordinance was unanimously approved and the ordinance will likely be approved at the next city council meeting in Oct. said Pappas.

Chicago Ridge residents receive recognition certificates

by Matt Mayer

Deputy Police Chief Paul Landry presented a Certificate of Public Service to Andrew Gestautas at the Chicago Ridge Board of Trustees meeting. There was an accident where one of our officer's police cruisers was struck by another car. The driver got in his vehicle and sped away. With his help by following the suspect. Gestautas was able to point out exactly where this young man was, said Landry Without his help, it would have taken a great deal of time to locate him. It turned out that he was also on parole, said Landry. Mayor Chuck Tokar congratulated and thanked him for getting involved in this situation.

Fire Chief Robert Muszynski presented,recognition certificates to Nathan Gimza 14, and his brother Nolan 9, for getting involved in two separate fire incidents. Nathan saw a fire in in the driveway and alerted his family who called 911. With out his prompt involvement, this could have been a more serious situation, said Muszynski. Nolan saw a transformer near his home sparking. He also immediately alerted his family who called 911. Chief Muszynski thanked the boys for their involvement and Mayor Tokar congratulated their parents for raising two fine boys who are alert in times of danger.

Mayor Charles Tokar welcomes Chik-Fil-A to Chicago Ridge

Oak Lawn Chamber Members and Chicago Ridge Village Officials gathered recently to welcome Chick-Fil-A to Chicago Ridge. Chicago Ridge Mayor Charles Tokar cut the ribbon to officially open the new location at 9600 S. Ridgeland Ave.

Chicago Ridge's first Chick-fil-A® restaurant will bringing more than 85 new jobs and the chance for 100 adults to win free Chick-fil-A meals for a year as the chain reaches the 10th anniversary of its signature grand opening celebration.

Peter Glanvill has been selected as the franchised Operator of the new Chicago Ridge Chick-fil-A. Glanvill moved his family from South Africa to the United States 16 years ago in pursuit of the American Dream, hoping to become a successful entrepreneur in his new homeland. With a marketing degree from his native Johannesburg, Glanvill arrived, immediately became involved in the local community and it was through local events that he became familiar with Chick-fil-A. After spending time with other operators and studying the brand, Glanvill decided it was a perfect fit for his dreams of owning a business and pursued the operator opportunity.

"Our focus on freshly prepared food and personal customer service is as central to our new restaurant as it was the day Truett opened his first Chick-fil-A location." said Glanvill. "That commitment continues for me and my team members at our new Chicago Ridge home. We encourage the community to support this new business as well as all local business.

Other highlights: Officials discussed the purchase of new reflective street signs. However they couldn't come to a consensus regarding the color choices. Officials decided to put the signs on the village website so residents can vote for their choice of color. The colors range from green with white letters, blue with white letters or white with black letters. It will take several years for the village wide replacement of the signs, officials said. The choices were not posted on the website www.chicagoridge.org/ at the time of this writing. Also a public works request to purchase a dump body for a pick up truck for $18,260 was approved. Tokar announced the following chairpersons for the Centennial Celebration: Community Festival -Don Pratl: Parade -George Schleyler and Centennial Ball - Denise Ridley.

Palos Heights approves infrastructure projects

by Matt Mayer

Officials at the Palos Heights City Council meeting approved payment to SEECO Consultants, Inc. for $2,315.00 for work related to the 2013 Road Program as well as an agreement with IDOT for LED traffic signal upgrades at various locations in the city. The state funded project is a 90/10 percent split - the state's cost is $380,103.75 and the city's cost is $8,596.25. A contract with Peerless Fence Inc. for $73,125.00 for the Community Park Pony Field fencing renovation project was also approved.

Other highlights: A request from the Classic Car Committee to purchase a car for the 2014 raffle at auction in an amount not to exceed $16,000.00 was approved.. A request from School District 118 PTA to place approximately 5 ea 24"x 24" signs at various locations throughout the City for their Cardinal Chase 5K Family Run/Walk on Oct. 6 was approved as well a request from Alan B. Shepard High School to place approximately 75 ground signs at various locations throughout the city promoting their Annual Craft Show on Dec 7 and the Band Boosters Annual Spring Craft Show on April 5, 2014.

An intergovernmental agreement between the Cook County Department of Public Health and the city for the provision of environmental health inspections from Dec. 1, 2013 thru Nov. 30, 2014 was approved as well as a motion to authorize the City Attorney Tom Brown to draft an ordinance amending sections of the municipal code requiring property owners to be current on any outstanding debt with the city prior to obtaining any type of building permit. Fees shall be paid to the city collector.

A request from St. Alexander School to hold a Walk-A-Thon on Friday Oct. 4 through the streets of Old Palos was approved as well as a request from the Lions Club to conduct Candy Days on Oct. 11 and 12.

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B-MAC EDITION

Volume 7 | Number 19 | October 1, 2013

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Illinois Green Infrastructure Grant awarded to Midlothian

by Jan Glaz

Midlothian Trustee Karen Kreis is a diligent master in the realm of applying for municipal grants, a highly competitive endeavor. On September 25th at the Village of Midlothian Board of Trustees Meeting Kreis had the honor of announcing that Midlothian will receive an Illinois Green Infrastructure Grant (IGIG) for the $95,000 Midlothian Village Greenway Project. The State of Illinois share is listed at $68,000; the Village match is $27,000. Kreis reported that the Greenway Project is a community-led initiative to naturalize and restore Midlothian Creek along a major thoroughfare, Pulaski Road. Not only will the project provide real water quality, but it also includes the development of a rain garden on a former building site and the replacement of a gravel and asphalt parking area with Porous Asphalt. Educational signage will be used to describe the project's water quality benefits. The project was developed as part of the Chicago Wilderness "Midlothian Creek Green Infrastructure Plan," a community-scale green infrastructure plan that covers the entire Midlothian Creek watershed. The Environmental Protection Ageney (EPA) approved the project for funding under the State Fiscal year 2013 Illinois green infrastructure grant program. The grant runs through October 31, 2015. Kreis thanked Trustee Gary L. Heureux for his efforts in providing the technical writing involved in the application process. "There were 3 categories with a total of 13 grant funding's for the entire State and we were one of them," said Trustee Kreis.

Trustee Don Killelea reported on information regarding the South Suburban Land Bank Authority and that the Land Bank will help Midlothian to fill unoccupied properties. The Land Bank will facilitate the redevelopment of acquired properties through strategic partnerships with developers, community organizations, lenders, and local governments, stabilize a tax base, and enhance economic activities. The South Suburban Land Bank and Development Authority was formed in 2012 with an intergovernmental agreement and all southland municipalities are invited to become members. The land bank was made possible by a HUD Sustainable Communities Grant awarded to the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association in 2011.

The Board of Trustees approved an IDOT Agreement to upgrade 147th Street Traffic Signals, before the meeting adjourned. The Illinois Department of Transportation is proposing the upgrade of traffic signals on state highways with Light-Emitting-Diode (LED) modules. The program goal is to complete the transformation in the State from incandescent traffic signal optics to low energy consumption, reduced maintenance and enhanced visibility. Battery back-up is included to allow the traffic signal to operate during temporary power outages.

Domingo Vargas, mayor of the City of Blue Island, poses with second graders at Paul Revere Primary School in Blue Island at the end of his visit.

Mayor of Blue Island visits second graders at Paul Revere Primary

Instead of a regular day on the job at City Hall on an afternoon in September, Mayor Domingo Vargas stopped by Paul Revere Primary School in Blue Island to pay a special visit to second grade students. Mayor Vargas, the first Latino mayor of the City of Blue Island, was invited to the primary school to talk about "Our Community" which is part of the second grade social studies curriculum. Along with his assistant Marisol Barrera, Mayor Vargas discussed his mayoral duties, the election process and his personal background. Students were especially intrigued when the mayor passed around his badge and explained how part of his job is being in charge of the police and fire departments. While displaying his walkie talkie during the presentation, Mayor Vargas explained that another very important duty he has is to protect all citizens, including animals, and that when dangerous weather situations arise, he is in charge of turning on the sirens to alert the community.

A lifelong resident of Blue Island, Mayor Vargas was elected to his post during the April 9 election. In addition to being the mayor, he is a 52-year-old lawyer and the grandson of a Mexican immigrant who arrived in Blue Island in 1914. At the conclusion of the presentation, Mayor Vargas took questions from students in the audience and he also invited them to visit him at City Hall.

Crestwood tackles flooding

by Jan Glaz

On September 19th at the Village of Crestwood Board of Trustees meeting Mayor Lou Presta announced that the Village of Crestwood had received two grants. They will be utilized for new drainage to be installed along 135th and Central and the village will purchase property to construct a retention pond in the area of the Midlothian Turnpike and Lamon. Both projects are slated to alleviate flooding.

Former Trustee James Fowler addressed the board to propose that the Crestwood Soccer Park be dedicated to the memory of Nancy C. Benedetto, 50 year resident and former Crestwood Village Clerk of 40 years, who passed away on August 22nd. Nancy Benedetto was honored with a proclamation at the Crestwood Board Meeting on September 5th naming her "Person of the Year 2012". Most parks in Crestwood are named but the soccer park has never been named. "I think she has more than earned that bit of recognition," said Fowler. A round of applause followed James Fowlers request. A new ordinance passed by the Village of Crestwood recently addressed the soccer park and sports clubs. Crestwood currently has five organized sports clubs within the Village. Each of these organizations requires the use of public space to carry out their activity. Presta reported that it is resident's tax dollars that maintain all Crestwood parks. The ordinance is intended to accommodate these five clubs and all the citizens of Crestwood. It will be done through the scheduling of time and issuance of permits at no charge to the various clubs.

Before the meeting adjourned the Village Attorney was given permission to prepare a Special Use Ordinance to permit a used car dealership known as International Equipment Sales with a stipulation that seven vehicles can be parked outside the building and that the facility complies with all State, Local and EPA codes on the property commonly known as 4450 W. 137th Place, in Crestwood, IL.

Join us for Halloween Tea

Come join us on October 19, 2013 from 2:00 to 4:00pm at BIHS/Albee House, 13018 Maple Ave, Blue Island, IL. The cost will be $20.00 per person.

It is suggested that you wear a Halloween costume.

Reservations are required. Please call (708) 371-8546. Visit www.blueislandhistoricalsociety.com/ for more information.

Save the date!

The Holiday Breakfast Tea Party & Cookie Exchange will be on Saturday, December 7, 2013 at 10:00am.

Oak Forest amends code for Residential Rental Licenses

by Jan Glaz

On September 24th the Oak Forest City Council approved amending the municipal code in regards to Residential Rental Licenses and "Crime-Free Housing". Police Chief Greg Anderson reported that it is legal for Oak Forest to require landlords to do criminal background checks on perspective tenants. however the city cannot mandate any action based on it. It is up to the landlord whether to rent or not to rent. Chief Anderson sited an issue pertaining to the numher of dwellings owned hy a particular landlord: the city learned there was one landlord company that owned 42 individual houses within Oak Forest. The initial ordinance. said Anderson. was written for one license at one set fee but the prohlem is an inspection must be done on each property for crime free housing and the fee structure does not account for it. The amended ordinance states that any separate property will require its own license. each individual property. not address: one complex is considered one property.

The city council voted in favor of purchasing 72 Phillips Lumec LED streetlight fixtures. Public Works Director Rich Rinchich related that the city of Oak Forest received a $22.50tt grant from the Illinois Clean Energy Foundation for a street lighting project designed to remove seventy-two 400w street lights and replace them with LED fixtures. The energy savings is a 72% reduction totaling 101,694 kWh. The eity anticipates a rebate based on the energy savings in the amount of $12,303. The fixtures will be installed hy in-house Public Works personnel and $10,109 from the Street Lighting operations hudget will be used towards the purchase. Changing 72 street light fixtures to LED will result in a $2.542 annual savings for electricity. "We are only changing 72 of the 166 metal poles that we maintain," said Rinchich. The work should be completed hy December 1st.

Newsworthy approvals: Before the meeting adjourned officials approved a request to adopt the Complete Streets Policy Resolution. Community Development Director Adam Dotson explained that adopting the policy, which requires streets to he planned. designed. operated. and maintained to enable access for safe. convenient travel for users of all ages and abilities. also gives the city eligihility to apply for grants more effectively. Council granted a special permit for allowing the use of a gas station at 15100 South Cicero Avenue. formerly operated as a Marathon gas station. Kamran Moten. petitioner. plans to re-0pen as Go-Lo gas station.

Community Director Adam Dotson explained that gas station operations produce several revenue generators: property tax. sales tax from the items they sell. and the city gas tax.

Taxes on 15000 properties sold-at Annual Tax Sale

Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas announced today that the unpaid taxes on more than 15.000 properties were sold at the Annual Tax Sale. recovering over $60 million in previously uncollected revenue.

"The money from property taxes is essential to operate local municipalities." said Pappas. "But the downturn in the economy has taken a toll on Cook County families and some are unable to pay. We want to make sure property owners whose taxes have been sold are treated fairly and are aware of every opportunity to pay their taxes so they are able to keep their homes."

The Annual Tax Sale is an auction of unpaid taxes that the Treasurer's Office is required to conduct hy state law. This year's Sale of delinquent taxes. from Tax Year 2011. was held August 5-12. A total of 51,560 Property Index Numbers (PINs) were available for auction. 16.711 of which were purchased by tax buyers.

Most of the money recovered from the Sale will be used hy 2,200 taxing agencies and local governments across Cook County to pay for schools. police and fire protection and other community purposes. Pappas said.

Homeowners whose delinquent taxes are sold have up to two years to redeem – pay their bill with interest. fees and penalties. Owners of commercial and industrial properties. may have less than two years to redeem. Onee the redemption period expires. the buyer can begin legal action in court to obtain the title to the property.

Taxpayers can learn if their taxes were purchased and how to redeem their taxes from tax buyers by contacting the Clerk's Office at www.cookcountyclerk.com or calling 312.603.5656.

Change of Insurance saves Blue Island over four hundred thousand dollars

On October 1st, City of Blue Island Employees will not only have Blue Cross/Blue Shield as their new insurance carrier, but the City will begin to realize a savings of over $400,000 annually.

City Clerk Randy Heuser points out, "The City of Blue Island has been self-insured for many years. Based on employee health insurance claims over the past five years, our premium to Blue Cross/Blue Shield not only yields a savings of over $400.0000 annually, hut we will have a defined cost to incorporate into our budget rather than biting our nails and hoping each months insurance claims can be paid."

"I am pleased with the financial savings", states Mayor Domingo Vargas." but I am most pleased with the City being able to offer our employees the same great coverage they have. but knowing medical payments will be made on time instead of waiting until we have the money to cover them. It's a win, win situation!"

Alsip Mayor gives emphasis to public protocol

hy Jan Glaz

During the public forum portion of the Village of Alsip Board Meeting on September 16th Mayor Patrick Kitching reminded hoth the puhlic and trustees of proper board meeting protocol. The reminder interrupted a discussion exchange between Trustee Dwyer and a citizen's inquiry related to village expenses. "There's certain rules with regard to public forum. you're allowed to make puhlic comments... it's not a debate. ask questions but they (board members) don't have to respond to you," said the Mayor. however. the questions and answers continued between the resident and trustee. Kitching emphasized. "Again. I'd like to remind the public that this is not Q&A, this is not debate... the trustees should refrain from engaging in Q&A and engaging in a debate." Kitching related that residents are welcome to discuss issues with board members before or after the meeting.

Police Chief, Chris Radz announced that the village had received numerous calls concerning the street light at 115th and Cicero. The light was not functioning properly due to a major traffic aceident that removed the overhang and the temporary light was not easily seen my motorists. Radz confirmed the corner is now repaired. Mayor Kitching added that people might not realize that the corner is a state highway and it wasn't Alsip's responsihility to repair it. Mayor Kitching voiced concern because the intersection is very dangerous; in the past an officer had been killed there while direeting traffic. Kitching stated that the village should post a fifth red-light camera, as a safety measure. Chief Radz responded that installing a red-light camera to a new intersection is time intensive and their priority is to have their current four red-light camera intersections back up and running. hefore installing a eamera at 115th Street.

Trustee Michaels request for approval of the matching funds for the FEMA's Assistance to Firefighters grant in the amount of $32,071.37 received a positive vote. The funds will go to the Garden Homes Fire Protection District who is managing the grant. Fire Chief, Thomas Styczynski, said this was approved back in May or June through FEMA, the annual grant program. hut there are additional compliance standards that the Fire Department is meeting. New radios are ordered and the Fire Department should receive them by the end of September or beginning of October. Other approvals include: The purchase of holiday banners and decorations for a total of $33,098; a request to waiver associated sign fees for the approval of the Alsip Chamber of Commerce to place ground signs around the Village announcing their 27th Annual Auction on Tuesday, October 10th at Apollo Park and their Fall Craft Fair at Apollo Park on Saturday, October 19th, also to place a portable sign in front of the Park District and the Chamber offiee from October 14th to October 21st announcing the Fall Craft Fair and; an approval to purchase a 2012 Ford Escape from National Car Rental at a cost not to exceed $18,000.

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We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

Behind the badge of Arturo Andonaegui

by Kelly White

Steps from Michigan Avenue, located in the heart of Chicago's Loop, Petterino's specializes in classic Italian dining, but that's not all. Petterino's, 150 N. Dearborn, is becoming more well-known than ever for their Monday Night Live entertainment featuring musical acts from local artists.

At around 7:30 p.m. each Monday, emcee-singers and co-hosts Denise McGowan Tracy and Beckie Menzie step to the front of the tiny stage in the show room at the back of Petterino's, and welcome everyone to an impromptu musical showcase. The term has been carefully chosen to avoid the much less desirable "open mic night" and all the amateurism that phrase implies. The night plays on a rotating roster of professional and emerging artists who headline the stage one at a time. Throughout the years, Petterino's had welcomed over 500 performers to their stage.

"What makes us unique from other open mics nights is our supper club setting with guests enjoying cocktails and dining while listening to the show," Denise McGowan Tracy said on behalf of Petterino's Monday Night Live experience.

The popular series marked its sixth anniversary in September, with a wide array of 16 talented performers, including Chicago Police Department's Arturo Andonaegui, vocalist for Honor Guard Unit and Vocalist Chaplains Unit. Andonaegui is no stranger to the microphone. Known by fans for having an incredible voice, Andonaegui took the stage with pride on Monday, September 9th at Petterino's for his solo performance.

"Arturo has been with us once or twice a year, his schedule permitting," Denise McGowan Tracy stated, "And, like most of our other singers, he shows up and signs up to sing."

Andonaegui's love of music originated from this great-grandfather, James Venegas, former Choir Director at Holy Name Cathedral. "My interest in music began at a very young) inspired by both my great-grandfather and my grandfather," Andonaegui explained.

Growing up his parents kept a wide variety of musical albums, ranging from solo vocalists, main-stream bands and orchestra pieces. Inspired by artists like Henry Mancini and Percy Faith. Andonaegui continued on with his passion for music throughout grammar school, high school and formerly Rosemary College, now Dominican University with formal voice lessons, training and choir.

"Believe it or not, I am always still learning," he admits.

Andonaegui performed at Petterino's sold out show; something Denise reports sold out shows is becoming the norm for the Monday Night Live events. "Our shows vary in length depending on the number of singers," Denise explained, "We start at 7:30 and end usually between 9:15 and 9:45, sometimes earlier, sometimes later."

This is not the first time Andonaegui took the stage for a main event. In a much more serious event, Andonaegui sang the National Anthem at the U.S. Capitol building in Washington, D.C. for a National Peace Officers Memorial Service in May of 2009.

"Arturo is always well received not only for his beautiful voice and engaging manner but because he dedicates his beautiful love songs to his wife," Denise added, "The crowd loves that and the fact that he is with the Chicago Police Department. That introduction always gets a round of applause for his service."

Andonaegui's favorite artist to perform, reflecting back to his early childhood, is Frank Sinatra, especially when accompanied by a live Jazz band or pianist.

Andonaegui and his wife, Martha, reside on the north side of Chicago. "We don't have any children yet, but we do have two cats, Margo and Polo, that we refer to as our children," he laughed. Andonaegui takes great pride in protecting his city. His musical talent is just another gift he is able to showcase to the community.

If you are interested in also becoming a performer at Petterino's bring sheet music in your key for the song you will be performing. Live piano accompaniment is available upon request. Sign up begins Monday nights at 7:00 p.m. and reservations are recommended. There is no cover but a $15 dining purchase required for viewing the live show.

For more information please call 312-422-0150.

Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce hosting chamber Monthly Luncheon

The Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce will host its monthly luncheon on Tuesday, October 8th at Hilton Oak Lawn. Registration and networking begin at 11:30 AM, followed by noon lunch.

We will welcome Tim Desmond, Oak Lawn Village Trustee, who will give a presentation on the new Oak Lawn Jobs Program. The goal of this program is to encourage local businesses to hire high school graduates from Oak Lawn, in order to provide them with training and an opportunity to develop job skills.

This is a good opportunity for networking and meeting other businesses in and around Oak Lawn. Come out and join us. All events are open to members and business owners. Please contact the Chamber office at (708) 424-8300 or email office@oaklawnchamber.com to reserve your spot.

Calling all Haunted Houses. Costume Contest. Pumpkin Festivals. Fall & Harvest Festivals... Advertise your special events in our October 15th issue. Rates starting as low as $20. Call Linda at 708-425-1910 or visit www.vvnew.com for more information

Train with the best!
INDOOR SOCCER
The Blue Island Park District's Practice & Play soccer leagues for children 4 – 14 yrs of age are back for the fall indoor season. Registration is open to the public.
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Out and About

with Kelly White

Alsip

Alsip Park District will be hosting their Farmers Market every Tuesday from now through October 8th from 3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at the Apollo Recreation Center Parking Lot, 12521 South Kostner Avenue. Come out and enjoy the fresh produce, homemade items, local vendors, prepared foods, children's activities and more!

Blue Island

Guitar Lessons with Anna Stange are available at the Blue Island Park District, 12804 Highland Avenue on Wednesdays, November 13th through December 18th. Youth Classes take place from 4:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. and adult classes take place from 6:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Registration for either session is $80 and participant must bring his or her own instrument to class. For more information please call 708-385-3304.

Midlothian

The Friends of the Midlothian Library is sponsoring a used book sale that will take place at the library, 14701 S. Kenton Avenue, on October 5th, from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Proceeds from the sales are used to underwrite services and programs at the library.

Learn the fundamentals of NFL Football on Saturday, October 19th at 11:00 a.m. at the Midlothian Public Library, 14701 S. Kenton Avenue. Robin Beavers and Donna Terrell both knowledgeable, lifelong and die-hard football fans will provide a humorous, fun, informative and interactive program. Register online at http://www.midlothianlibrary.org/ or call the Reference Desk at 708-535-2027.

November 14th at 7:00 p.m. professional appraiser Rex Newell of Rex's Antiques will discuss current trends in the antique markets at the Midlothian Public Library, 14701 S. Kenton Avenue. The first 40 registrants may have one hand-held item appraised; only one item per household. Midlothian Public Library residents have priority registration. Non- Residents may register beginning Thursday, November 7th. Limited seating is available. Please call 708-535-2027 to register or register online, beginning November 7th, on the calendar page at www.midlothianlibrary.org.

The Midlothian Park District holds monthly Senior Luncheons at Raday Lodge. These luncheons are open to the public and tickets can be purchased at the Don Preston Recreation Center, 14500 South Kostner or at the Midlothian Village Hall, 14801 Pulaski. Tickets are $7.00 each. Doors open at 9:30 a.m. and lunch is served promptly at 11:00 a.m. The next luncheon is scheduled for October 11th with lunch provided by Bartolini's Restaurant.

Oak Forest

The Oak Forest Park District is offering Youth Night Out -Halloween Mini Golf Party for grades 4, 5 and 6. This event will take place Friday, October 11th from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at El Morro Park, 155th and Arroyo. For more information call Kirstin at 708- 687-7270 ext.132.

The Senior Commission will host its annual Senior Health Fair on Thursday, October 10th from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the Oak Forest Park District, 15601 Central Avenue.

The Oak Forest Park District is offering at El Morro Park, 155th and Arroyo their golfing event on Saturday, October 12th from 2:00pm-6:00pm. The cost is $5.00 per child and $1.00 per adult payable at the door. For more information please call Stephanie at (708) 687-7270 ext. 118.

Tinley Park

Visit the Farmers Market from 7:00 a.m. to noon Saturdays through October 27th for the best selection of fresh fruits, vegetables, flowers and much more. It is held in downtown Zabrocki Plaza, 17375 Oak Park Avenue.

Worth

Family Fall Fest Weekend takes place on October 4th and 5th at the Worth Park District, 11500 South Beloit Avenue, with two great additions to this activity filled festival. This year our weekend begins Friday evening with Cowboy Randy and stories by the camp fire. Saturday morning cheer on the little ones as they compete in the Kiddie Run. For more information please call 708-448-7080.

Worth Park District's annual haunted house begins on October 11th and runs through Halloween weekend at 11500 South Beloit Avenue. Contact Athletics Supervisor, Kara Jelderks at 708-448-7080 for more information.

Bridgeview

Bridgeview Park District's Haunted Hallow will be running from October 20th through October 22nd and from October 27th through October 31st at 89th And Harlem Avenue (Behind Midland Savings). The event will take place on Fridays and Saturdays from 7:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. and on weeknights from 7:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m.

Burbank

Halloween Party and Haunted House at the Newcastle Park Recreation Center, 8050 New Castle Avenue, on Saturday, October 29th from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. for ages 12 and under. All children should dress in costume. For more information please call 708-599-2070.

Pumpkin Decoration is offered at the Newcastle Park Recreation Center, 8050 New Castle Avenue, on Wednesday, October 26th from 4:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. for ages six to 11 years old. There is an $8 fee for residents and a $12 dollar fee for non-residents. For more information please call 708- 599-2070.

Justice

Are you over 55 years of age and are interested in being active? If so, you can register the Justice Park District's new Club Active. Members will enjoy educational outings, fun activities and holiday socials with fellow community adults. This is a great way for you to meet other adults in our community and plan things you would like to do as well. Members will also have exclusive offers for free trips and other recreational activities offered by JPD throughout the year. To join you must be at least 55 years of age and register by filling out a short application you can obtain by visiting the Justice community Center on 7747 South Oak Grove Avenue, or call 708-458-1370 for a mailed copy.

Evergreen Park

Mom or Dad Morning Out: Want to go shopping for a few hours without the kids, or just have a few hours to yourself? Drop your child/children off at the Recreation Department's nursery. Fee is based on one-hour increments for a $5 fee per hour per child and a $7.50 fee per hour for two or more children at the Evergreen Park Community Center, 3450 West 97th Street, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. until noon. For more information please call 708-422-1551.

Hickory Hills

Private dance lessons are available at the Hickory Hills Park District, 8047 W 91st Place, $35/hour for residents and $40/hour for non-residents. Please call 708-598-1233 for dates and times available.

Oak Lawn

The Friends of the Oak Lawn Library will host an "Incredible Edibles" bus trip on Thursday, October17th. Registration for this trip is currently underway. For additional information, call (7081 422-4990. The tour begins with a one-hour visit to the Long Grove Confectionary Candy Factory in Buffalo Grove, complete with samples and time to shop in the outlet store. Enjoy a delicious deep dish pizza and Chicken Louie lunch at Lou Malnati's in Schaumburg. The visit concludes with a trip to Lynfred Winery in Roselle. Tour the cellars of this century old house and taste seven different fruits of the vine. This tour departs at 8:15 a.m. and returns at 4:15 p.m., the cost is $79 for members and $84 for others.

Spookview will take place on Saturday, October 22nd from 1:00 p.m. until 5:30 p.m., at 9425 South 55th Avenue. This event is for children 2- 12 years of age. Children must bring their own reusable Trick-n-Treat bag or container. Admission is free but activities range from 50¢ to $2.

Orland Park

Orland Chateau, 14500 S La Grange Road, will be hosting a Pasta Extravaganza/Night at the Races on October 16th from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Tickets are $25 and include pasta, pizza, sandwiches and salads, as well as wine, beer and pop. You can place bets on prerecorded horse races and cash in your winnings for special prizes. Contact Karen Moran to purchase tickets, to name a horse, or to sponsor a race at 708-349-7878.

The Orland Park Civic Center Farmers Market, 14750 Ravinia Ave., offers over 30 vendors offer a variety of fresh produce, flowers, plants, pasta, bakery items, gourmet spices, jewelry, home and garden items, purses, beauty products, and more. Barbecue lunches sponsored by local charities are available for purchase on Fridays through October 5th from 7:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m., for more information, please call 708-403-6140.

Palos Hills

Children can get The Museum Adventure Pass from the Green Hills Public Library, 8611 W. 103rd Street. This pass allows free entry into many museums in the area including: Brookfield Zoo, Chicago Botanic Garden, Oak Lawn Children's Museum and more! For more information visit the library, for more information please call (708) 598-8446.

Come out to stargaze at Moraine Valley Community Center as it hosts its series of telescope open viewing nights this summer. All open viewings are held at the telescope dome on the G. Jack Bradley Observation Deck, located on the west side of the college's Nature Study Area, off Kean Avenue near 107th Street. Observers can park in the lots east of Building P or in the west section of the Building D parking lot. The next open viewing is on October 11th at 6:30 p.m.

Palos Park

Holiday and Craft Ideas on Saturday, October 19th at 11:00 a.m. at the Palos Park Library, 12330 Forest Glen Blvd. Join Mary and Karen, hosts of PHTV's "Just for the Art of It" Craft Program, for gift and craft ideas for Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Learn gift wrapping ideas, how to create holiday favors, a hand-crafted pin and more. Attendees will be entered in a raffle to win one of the crafted items. Call the library to register at 708-448-1530 or use our handy on-line registration at http://www.palosparklibrary.org/programs.htm.

Identity Theft Seminar at the Palos Park Library, 12330 Forest Glen Blvd., on Tuesday, October 22nd at 7:00 p.m. Standard Bank Security Director Mike Tardi will show how to protect yourself from fraud schemes, identity theft, and how to secure personal information. Call the library to register at 708-448-1530 or use our handy on-line registration at http://www.palosparklibrary.org/programs.htm.

Palos Heights

Every Wednesday through October 9th, the city of Palos Heights will be hosting a Farmers Market at 13317 S. Harlem Avenue from 7:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Oak Lawn faces budget woes

by Matt Mayer

Village Treasurer Pat O'Donnell and Finance Director Brian Hannigan gave an overview presentation regarding the village financial budget shortfalls at the recent Oak Lawn Board of Trustees meeting. O'Donnell's options encompass cuts and layoffs in several departments, tax hikes, as well as a review of 2013 expenditures. Otherwise the village will continue to "kick the can" by not paying recommended pension contributions, and incurring additional debt, said O'Donnell.

The village must fund its pension obligations at 90 percent in the next 3 years or the state will begin collecting local sales tax revenue to make up for the shortfall said Hannigan. Village manager Larry Deetjen said there is little change in the $50.7 million revenue for 2013 as well as the projected figure over the next few years, which raises the deficit $10.6 million in 2015 and $11 million in 2016 respectively.

In 2013 the village sold a parking lot and a group of stores to Beverly Bank for $1.8 million. One of the stores housed the Senior Center along with the Chamber of Commerce. Upon completion the site will be the home of Oak Lawn Bank and Trust. This one time influx of money helped plug the budget shortfall, said Hannigan

The village pensions and retires medical plans caused the 2013 budget to fall short by $4.8 million. Under- funded plans are responsible for $5.8 million of the projected $8.7 million budget shortfall in 2014. There are also more retirees and they are living longer, said Deetjen.

Estimated sales taxes are expected to rise slowly from $13.7 million in 2014 to $15.4 million in 2018. With the opening of Mariano's at 111th and Cicero Avenue, sales tax revenues are expected to increase, said Deetjen. Mayor Sandra Bury said she and several trustees are committed to solve the budgetary crisis without raising property taxes. Officials will begin discussing the financial choices in detail at the Oct 16 Board of Trustees meeting.

Run or walk the Halloween Hustle at Moraine Valley

Join other walkers and runners for the Halloween Hustle 5K at Moraine Valley Community College on Saturday, Oct. 19. Check-in starts at 8:30 a.m., and the race begins at 9:15 a.m. between Buildings C and D on campus, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills. The race will take runners twice and walkers once around the perimeter path encircling the campus.

Participation in the 5K, or 3.1-mile jaunt, is free and open to the community, ages 16 and older. Refreshments will be provided following the event, and prizes will be awarded to the top male and female finishers of both the run and walk.

The event is sponsored by Moraine Valley's Health Fitness Center. Registration forms can be picked up and dropped off in the Fitness Center in Building G. Participants also can register the day of. For more information, call (708) 974-5701.

This space could be your AD!
Call 708-425-1910 for information.

Riley's Tricks and Gifts Grand Opening October 5th

Riley's Tricks and Gifts, the new home of Riley's Trick Shop, will have a grand opening in its new location, 8086 W. 111th Street in Palos Hills, Illinois, on Saturday October 5, 2013, at 11 a.m. The store is located one block west of Roberts Road, across from Stagg High School. This is Riley's fifth location in its 76-year history. Established in 1937 at 7909 S. Rhodes in Chicago, Riley's moved to 1057 W. 79th St. in 1956, 9033 S. Western in 1965, and was most recently located at 6442 W. 111th St. in Worth in 1973. Since a good portion of our sales are for gifts we decided to add "gifts" to our name when we moved.

On tap for that day will be snacks and beverages and a sidewalk sale, weather permitting. To kick off the Halloween season, all packaged costumes will be buy one, get one of equal or lesser value free. This includes all adult and children's costumes. There will be other surprises, too. To learn more, please "like" the Riley's Tricks and Gifts page on Facebook.

For more information, please call Jim Riley at 708-448-0075.

Queen of Peace and St. Laurence High Schools hold First Responders Mass

Queen of Peace and St. Laurence high schools will be hosting a mass for First Responders, Family, friends and the community are invited to honor all active and retired Police Officers, Firefighters/EMS and all branches of the Military. Fr. Brandt will preside over the mass which will be held at Queen of Peace High School on Sunday Oct 20th at 10:00am. Queen of Peace High School is located at 7659 S. Linder Ave. in Burbank. Class A Uniform is encouraged. Refreshments will be served immediately following mass. Please join us in honoring these dedicated men and women. If you plan to attend please RSVP by Oct 18th to 708-458-7600 or gardast@queenofpeacehs.org.

Venetian Gardens Restaurant
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MAMA IS REALLY IN THE KITCHEN!
Sweetest Day is Saturday, October 19th
Midwest No #1
Elvis Tribute Artist - Bob West
Dinner and Show, $20 per person.
Cash Bar. Seating 6 pm. Make Reservations
Vegas Style Slot and Poker Machines
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Monday-Saturday 11am-10pm, Sunday 4pm-10pm
Bar is open til 2:00am
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The Blue Island Park District presents the
Blue Island Fishing Derby
A free for all race to lure the biggest catch!
Trophies will be awarded in divisions
October 13th, 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
at the Memorial Park Pool
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Senior Commission hosts annual health fair

The Oak Forest Senior Commission will host its annual Senior Health Fair on Thursday, October 10 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Oak Forest Park District at 15601 S. Central Avenue. Admission to the fair is free.

"This is a great opportunity for seniors to take care of some housekeeping items like renewing their drivers' licenses or enrolling in utility rate relief programs," said Commission Chair Bev Beatty. "We have several new vendors this year with a variety of products and information."

This year's new vendors include CapTel (captioned telephones), South Suburban Cancer Center, Catholic Charities, Bone and Joint Physicians, and Oak Forest Horizon Senior Living. During the fair, seniors can get flu, shingles and pneumonia shots (Medicare and supplement cards required); balance, cholesterol and BMI checks; and blood pressure and bone density tests.

Local seniors can schedule a ride to the fair on the Oak Forest Community Bus by calling 708-535-4090.

For more information about the fair, please call 708-687-4050, ext. 1607 or e-mail ofseniorcomm@oak-forest.org.

Girl Scouts Adelina Cesari, Jaimee Bigott, Aaron Gomez (sign contest winner), GS Leader Roxanne Cesario, Natalie Campise Girl Scout), GS Co-Leader Laura Campise and Girl Scout Eghosa Atoe.

Girl Scouts promote clean air at Liberty School

Girl Scout, Adelina Cesario, Jaimee Bigott, Natalie Campise and Eghosa Atoe and an idea made a difference in the air quality at Liberty School. Girl Scouts of Troop 154 went on a journey in pursuit of a Silver Award and to improve air quality for the students and staff. As former students of the school, they brought their idea to former Principal Dave Snyder, which entailed observing the car lane during pick-up and drop off times when cars are idling. With the aid of a tool kit provided by the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency), the girls observed a potential hot spot around the school created by over 1,400 minutes of vehicles idling over four days. The project soon progressed to making the community and parents aware of the potential "hot spot" and the harmful effects of exhaust fumes. The four Girl Scouts handed out literature and "Turn Your Key, Be Idle Free" key chains to those parents in the Liberty School car line who turned off their engines in recognition of the program. They also organized a "No Idling design sign contest among the Liberty students, choosing the artwork of fifth grader Aaron Gomez. Gomez now attends Jerling Jr. High.

Three "No Idling" signs with Gomez's artwork now stand along the Liberty car path lane and were dedicated to the school recently, declaring Liberty School a "No Idling Zone." Orland Park School District 135 is grateful for the research and hard work the four Girl Scouts dedicated to the "No Idling" initiative and encourage more schools to recognize the benefits.

Upcoming Village of Worth event

The Village of Worth, in conjunction with the US Army Corps of Engineers is hosting the annual Lucas Berg Nature Preserve Clean Up.

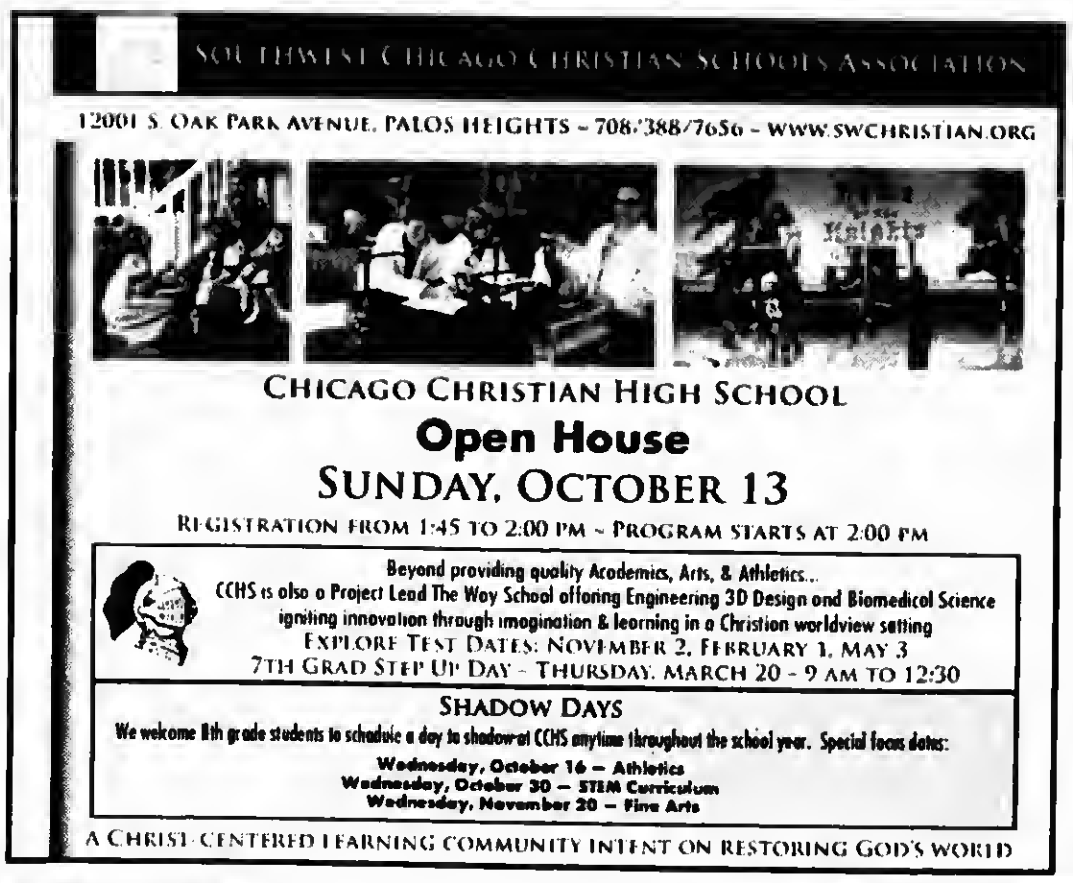
Saturday, October 12, 9 am to noon.

Have you ever wanted to go inside the Lucas Berg Pit?

Now you can! Parking is available at St. Mark's Church. The entrance to the pit is located directly across from the Pit. Volunteers are needed. Refreshments are available after the clean up.

Please dress for the weather. This is a rain or shine event.

For more information please call 708 448 1181 or visit http://www.villageofworth.com



Catering, Deli's, Party Rooms, Candy Stores, Costumes Shops, call to advertise for Halloween special, 708-425-1910.

Acorn Public Library District events

Thursday, October 10th at 7pm; Chicago's Haunt Detective

Former criminal investigator, author and local historian, Ray Johnson, sheds light on some of Chicago's favorite haunted locations and legends.

Thursday, October 24th at 7pm; Stress Management Seminar

This Seminar is for those who seek to understand and more effectively manage their stress level, while maintaining or improving their physical and mental well-being. Register today!

Please call 708-687-3700 to register. Acorn Public Library District, 15624 S. Central Ave. Oak Forest, IL 60452.

Blue Island Fishing Derby

The rumors everyone's been herring are true. The Blue Island Park District Fishing Derby returns for another season of of fintastic family fun!

Sunday, October 13th at 2pm marks the start of the 2013 fishing derby. You'll have 3 hours to catch a fish worthy of the scale. Bring your family, friends and don't forget your best rod. There reely isn't a better place to spend quality time with the family, and if you do, please let minnow.

Trophies will be awarded in varies catch-egories.

Need some practice? You'll get your oper-tuna-ty during are open fishing hours. Open fishing times will be available starting October 11th. Check our website for times and dates.

Your own equipment is recommended.

Sunday, Ooctober 13th from 2pm to 5pm for all ages. At Memorial Park Pool, 12804 S. Highland Ave., Blue Island, IL

The cost is $5 at the door. Rain or Shine.

Questions? Call 708-385-3304 or visit www.blueislandparks.org

Sports Bars, Grills & Bars, Banquet Halls, are you having a Halloween Party? Advertise and invite all the Goblins to your party. Call 708-425-1910.

Swallow Cliff NSDAR October Luncheon

The Swallow Cliff Chapter National Society Daughters of the American Revolution will hold its 32nd Anniversary Luncheon at 12:00 noon on Saturday, October 19, 2013, at Beggars Pizza, 15600 S. Cicero, Oak Forest. The cost is $10, and reservations are required by October 10. The speaker will be Gloria Flathom, District IV director. The NSDAR is a non-profit, non-political organization dedicated to preserving American history, securing America's future through better education, and promoting patriotism. Membership in the DAR is a unique opportunity to honor one's lineage and heritage as a descendant of a patriot of the American Revolution. Prospective members and guests from all south and southwest suburbs are welcome at the meeting.

For further information, call 815-464-0509 or email: swallowcliffdar@comcast.net

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Wednesday, December 4th
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Wednesday, December 4th, 6:00 - 8:00 pm
SHADOW DAYS
Any Monday or Friday through December 13th
SUPER SHADOW DAYS
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Friday, November 8th - Monday, November 11th
ENTRANCE EXAM
Saturday, January 11th, 2014, 8:00 am
Monna Tapros, Enrollment Manager
630.257.7846 ext. 239
mtadmt@mtassisi.org

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- Crestwood operates 7 days a week at 9:30 am and12:30 pm
  The bus picks up at 5411 W. 127TH Street.
- Homewood operates Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 9:30 am
  The bus picks up at the Washington Square Restaurant 17815 S. Halsted

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- Griffith operates Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 10:00 am
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Senator Bill Cunningham and State Representative Kelly Burke.

Meet with local elected officials at SXU's Breakfast with Your Legislators

Local business professionals are invited to meet and mingle with Chicagoland elected officials at the Eighth Annual Breakfast with Your Legislators on Fri., Oct. 11, 8 a.m. at Saint Xavier University, 3700 W. 103rd St.

Elected officials scheduled to attend include State Sen. Bill Cunningham (D-18th), State Rep. Kelly Burke (D-36th), State Rep. Fran Hurley (D-35th), Cook County Commissioner John Daley (D-11th), Chicago Ald. Matt O'Shea (19th), Oak Lawn Mayor Sandra Bury, and Blue Island Mayor Domingo Vargas.

Registration and networking begins at 7:30 a.m. in the Butler Reception Room located in the Warde Academic Center, followed by breakfast and the program at 8 a.m.

General admission for the event, which includes breakfast, is $30 per person and $20 for members of the following organizations: Beverly Area Planning Association, Evergreen Park Chamber of Commerce, Oak Law Chamber of Commerce, and Blue Island Chamber of Commerce. This event is expected to sell out, so register online at www.bapa.org/ticketslb.asp.

Breakfast with your Legislators is sponsored by AT&T, hosted by Saint Xavier University, and co-sponsored by Beverly Area Planning Association and the Oak Lawn, Evergreen Park and Blue Island Chambers of Commerce.

Moraine Valley fall enrollment surpasses 17000 mark again

The 2013 fall total enrollment at Moraine Valley Community College declined 3.8 percent from a year ago, although it still surpassed the 17,000 mark for the twelfth consecutive fall semester with a total of 17,604 students.

Credit enrollment dropped to 16,106 students and non-credit enrollment declined to 1,498 students compared to fall 2012.

Eighty-one percent of the students reside within the college district. 52 percent of the students are female, 58 percent are part-time, and the average age is 25.

"We know that the economic recovery still has an impact on students and the choices they have to make," Dr. Sylvia M. Jenkins, college president, said. "We applaud their efforts to obtain a degree knowing that it opens up a brighter future for them, their families and their communities."

Moraine Valley's decline reflects the trend the nation's community colleges have been experiencing for the past several years after recording record enrollments. "Usually, when the economy softens, enrollment spikes at community colleges, but this time around the economic woes worsened, and although the economy is slowly recovering, it still has taken its toll on students' discretionary spending," said Mark Horstmeyer, director of College and Community Relations. "For many, many students they first have to pay their bills and then see what's left over. In many of those cases, there is not enough, so their education plans are put on hold.

"Community colleges such as Moraine Valley are still a bargain compared with four-year universities and colleges, and continue to make up the vast majority of students enrolled in higher education," he said. "We continue to seek ways to help more students' educational goals become a reality."

Annual Bazaar

Artist, Crafter & Vendor Show & Homemade Greek Food & Pastries.

Saturday, October 19th, 9am to 4pm & Sunday, October 20th, 11:00am to 3pm. An exciting array of displays with unique items for home, gifts and enjoyment! Homemade Greek Food & Pastries; eat in or take out. Free Pastry Raffle! Hosted by the Ladies' Philoptochos Society

of St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church. Held at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church Community Center; 10301 S. Kolmar Ave. Oak Lawn, IL 60453; Admission $1.00; Free Parking; Call: 708/ 636-7874 or E-mail: stnickphilo@yahoo.com

Haunted Houses, Costumes, Halloween Parties, advertise now! Call Linda 708-425-1910.

Sideshow Theatre's 9 CIRCLES, through October 6, 2013 at The DCASE Storefront Theater

Sideshow Theatre Company, in association with the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events, is pleased to open its 2013-14 season with the Chicago premiere of 9 CIRCLES by Bill Cain, directed by Marti Lyons, playing now threw October 6, 2013 at The DCASE Storefront Theater, 66 E. Randolph St. in Chicago. Tickets are currently on sale at http://www.sideshowtheatre.org/.

9 CIRCLES features Sideshow Artistic Associate Andy Luther (Sideshow's The Gacy Play) with Andrew Goetten (ATC's The Big Meal) Amanda Dahl Powell (UrbanTheatre's Brainpeople) and Jude Roche (The Hypocrites' Coriolanus).

Private Daniel Reeves was never good at anything but being in the army. Now he stands accused of a horrific war crime and has been disowned by the nation that recruited him. As he sits in a cell and awaits his day of judgment, time seems to expand and contract around him, while a surreal progression of lawyers, clergy and his own memories carry him deeper and deeper into his alleged crimes. Can he find any light to guide him out of the darkness, or will the weight of his past bind him down? Sideshow returns to its roots – examining Dante's Inferno with a startling and searingly relevant Chicago premiere that provides a razor-sharp look at the search for life in a place that seems made to extinguish it.

"When the company first read 9 Circles aloud, we were transfixed, breathless, blown away," comments Artistic Director Jonathan L. Green. "Bill Cain's script is a spellbinding mix of contemporary language and an ancient, eternal struggle, how does one endure having committed an unbearable sin? We're thrilled to kick off our seventh season with director Marti Lyons at the helm of what promises to be a vital, knock-out Chicago premiere," add Green.

The production team for 9 CIRCLES includes: Courtney O'Neill (scenic designer), Kristin DeiTos (costume designer), Mac Vaughey (lighting designer), Artistic Associate Christopher M. LaPorte (sound designer), Michael Hucy (composer), Ryan Milosevich (technical director), Arianna Soloway (properties coordinator), Jeffrey Gardner (dramaturg), Cate Anderson and Brittany Parlor (stage managers) and Benjamin W. Dawson (production manager).

Curtain Times: Thursday, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 pm; Sundays at 2 pm

The Marriott Theatre presents Mary Poppins

The world's most beloved Nanny MARY POPPINS drops in to The Marriott Theatre, 10 Marriott Drive, Lincolnshire, Broadway's supercalifragilistic, award-winning hit arrives on stage Wednesday, October 23, opening Wednesday, October 30 at 8:00 p.m. and running through January 5. From the irresistible story to the unforgettable songs to the breathtaking dance numbers, MARY POPPINS will be directed by nine-time Jeff Award-winner Gary Griffin with Choreography by Jeff Award nominee Alex Sanchez and Musical Direction by Jeff Award-winner Michael Mahler.

Based on P.L. Travers' cherished stories and the classic 1964 Walt Disney film, MARY POPPINS features a magical score including "A Spoonful of Sugar," "Chim Chim Cher-ee," "Feed the Birds," and "Let's Go Fly a Kite" by the Academy Award-winners Richard M. and Robert B. Sherman. The stage production was created, in collaboration with Cameron Mackintosh, by Academy Award-winning screenwriter Julian Fellowes (book), and the Olivier Award-winning team of George Stiles and Anthony Drewe (new songs and additional music and lyrics).

Starring as the "practically perfect" nanny in the Marriott Theatre production of MARY POPPINS will be multi Jeff award-winner Summer Naomi Smart (National tour of Wicked; Jeff Award-winner for The Light in the Piazza at Marriott Theatre and Sweet Charity at Drury Lane Oakbrook). The cast also features Bernie Yvon as "Bert" (Broadway and National tours of Ragtime: The Music Man, Hairspray, Joseph..., Beauty and the Beast at the Marriott Theatre); Rod Thomas as "George Banks," Susan Moniz as "Winifred Banks," Johnny Rabe and Brady Tutton sharing the role of "Michael Banks," and Caroline Heffernan and Madison Gloria Olszewski sharing the role of "Jane Banks". The cast also includes Paula Scrofano, John Reeger, Matthew Crowle, Rebecca Finnegan, Johanna McKenzie Miller, William Carlos Angulo, Lauren Blane, Jaclyn Bureh, Jameson Cooper, Devin DeSantis, Raymond Interior, Ericka Mac, Adam Rogers, Sam Rogers, Amanda Tanguay, Brandi Wooten and Melissa Zaremba.

The MARY POPPINS production team is led by the Marriott Theatre's lead artistic director Andy Hite. The design team includes Set Designer Tom Ryan, Projection Designer Mike Tutaj, Costume Designer Nancy Missimi, Lighting Designer Diane Ferry Williams, Sound Designer Bob Gilmartin and Properties Designer Sally Weiss. The Marriott Theatre orchestra is conducted by musical supervisor Patti Garwood.

The performance schedule is Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays at 8:00 p.m., Saturdays at 4:30 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., and Sundays at 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. From December 26-January 5 there will be a special family-friendly Holiday schedule. Ticket prices range from $40 to $48, excluding tax and handling fees. Students 17 and under and senior citizen 62 and older receive $5.00 off a full price theatre ticket for Wednesday Matinee, Saturday Matinee, Sunday Matinee and Sunday Afternoon performances. On Wednesday and Thursday evenings a limited number of Dinner and Theatre tickets are available for only $55.00 per person. For Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evening dinner reservations in The King's Wharf or Fairfield Inn, please call 847-634-0100. Free parking is available at all performances. To reserve tickets please call the Marriott Theatre Box Office at 847.634.0200. Visit http://www.marriottheatre.com/ for more information.

Broadway Playhouse presents To Master the Art

The six week engagement is currently playing until October 20, at The Chicago Commercial Collective will produce the 2010 Timeline Theatre World Premiere Hit.

Karen Janes Woditsch and Craig Spidle return to the roles of Julia and Paul Child. This play portrays the love Julia and Paul Child shares in Paris during the 50's. It is a remarkable play with an interesting storyline and lots of laughs for those who remember Julia Child, our first famous female chef.

Evita at Broadway in Chicago

Broadway in Chicago's new production, at the Oriental Theater, running through October 6, gives Evita a new look and feel. Assuredly directed by Tony and Olivier Award winner Michael Grandage and choreographed by Tony Award winner Rob Ashford, this production is exciting and moves quickly. The first act is memorable, as Grandage showcases the ambitious and ruthless Eva (Caroline Bowman) who stops at nothing to achieve fame and fortune. In "Good Night and Thank You," we see Eva spinning her web with tango singer Magaldi (Christopher Johnstone) who she tosses aside as she meets new and more connected lovers in her quest for position.

The "The Art of the Possible," is a "tango for power" as officers square off in a king of the hill battle, eventually won by Juan Peron (Sean MacLaughlin). Eva seduces Peron in "I'd Be Surprisingly Good for You," Peron's mistress (Krystina Albado) is forced to leave and renders a lovely version of "Another Suitcase in Another Hall".

The second act is less vigorous as we see the decline of Eva as she ultimately reaches her end. "Don't Cry for Me Argentina" and "High Flying Adored" are great numbers, well staged, and "And the Money Keeps Rolling In" gives insight into how Eva helped to bankrupt Argentina. In the end, you feel the sadness of the people at her loss.

Caroline Bowman's performance as Eva is genuine, warm, and gives the audience a softer look at this icon.

This is a wonderful show with strong performances and beautiful music. It is bold, captivating, and worth your 2 hours and 15 minutes.

Tickets range from $27-$90 and can be purchased at the box office. Oriental Theatre located at 24 West Randolph Street or at any of the box offices of the Broadway In Chicago theaters, by phone at 800-775-2000 (Broadway In Chicago Ticketline), at all Ticketmaster outlets or www.ticketmaster.com or at www.BroadwayInChicago.com.

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Midway Storage offering a free Pumpkin Give-a-Way Promotion

Autumn has arrived and with it brings cooler weather, football, leaves changing colors and Halloween! Midway Storage wants to help bring in the arrival of autumn with a free pumpkin when you rent any size storage unit.

Autumn is a great time to clean out the garage for winter, de-clutter and put away the summer clothes, or if you are in the process of moving- Midway Storage can help!

To receive your free pumpkin, starting October 1st, visit any of the three Midway Storage Locations:

- 2341 W 135th Pl, Blue Island IL, 708-293-1900
- 5660 W 55th St, Chicago, IL, 773-581-7815
- 4906 W Madison, Chicago, IL, 773-379-2900

To learn more about Midway Storage please visit us at www.midwaystorage.biz.

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The Pumpkin Give-a-Way Promotion won't last long, so don't miss out.

To learn more about Midway Storage; call 1 (800) IL-STORAGE or visit the website at www.midwaystorage.biz.

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FREE Admission

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9:00 am to 2:00 pm
St. Pius X Church
4300 S. Oak Park Ave., Stickney
Crafters Wanted - $30 fee
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Advertise in Crafters Corner, call Linda for more information at 708-425-1910.

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Saturday, October 12
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www.tinleyparkdistrict.org

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Fabulous Food

These light kebabs are delightful with salads or on top of a bed of couscous or quinoa pilaf.

King Sockeye or Coho a guide to buying wild Salmon

(NAPSA)-Salmon is good tasting and good for you-rich in omega-3s and a good source of protein. Want to know how to find the best available? Here are hints on how from Keith Harris, the Whole Foods Market Port Buyer based in Alaska:

Tips on Buying Salmon

• King (chinook) salmon is the most highly sought-after of all the salmon due to its high omega-3 content and full flavor. King comes in many shades of orange to red; all are delicious!

• Sockeye reds have a bright red color and extra-firm texture. The best sockeye comes from Alaska.

• Coho (silver salmon) has a milder flavor so it's a good choice for kids. Coho's also great for grilling.

• How the fish was caught affects how it tastes. Try to buy troll-caught salmon; each fish is handled individually. Trollers care about the environment and take great pride in what they deliver.

• In general, avoid any salmon that shows signs of browning. Also, check for minimal bruising and firm flesh.

• Wild salmon populations are threatened in some parts of the world. Look for fish from Marine Stewardship Council-certified sources, or from fisheries that are green or yellow rated according to the Blue Ocean Institute or Monterey Bay Aquarium's Seafood Watch program.

Salmon is delicious grilled, broiled, sautéed or poached. For inspiration, try this light recipe:

Rosemary-Lime Wild Alaska Salmon Kebabs

Serves 4

1 pound wild salmon fillets, cut into chunks

1 zucchini, cut into chunks

1 yellow bell pepper, cut into chunks

1 large red onion, cut into chunks

Sea salt and black pepper

2 garlic cloves, finely chopped

1 tablespoon (about 2 small sprigs) chopped rosemary leaves

1/3 cup extra-virgin olive oil

3 tablespoons lime juice

Wooden or bamboo skewers, soaked in water 10 minutes

Place salmon, zucchini, bell pepper and onion in a shallow baking dish and sprinkle with salt and pepper. Whisk together garlic, rosemary, olive oil and lime juice in a small bowl. Pour mixture over salmon and vegetables, toss and marinate 15 to 30 minutes. Preheat the grill or broiler. Skewer the salmon and vegetables, reserving marinade, and grill or broil 5 to 7 minutes, turning once, until salmon is cooked through and vegetables are tender. While cooking, boil the marinade in a small saucepan for 5 minutes. Drizzle over skewers and serve.

Learn More

You can find further tips and recipes online at www.wholefoodsmarket.com.

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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 40 | Number 8 | October 15, 2013

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

Residents petition Hickory Hills City Council

by Jan Glaz

A resident acting as the self-appointed spokesman for his neighbors addressed the Hickory Hills City Council on October 11th in regards to the existence of a 10' high garage door on property located at 9225 85th Court, owned by Yanena Staszec who is doing extensive remodeling. The issue generated a discussion among officials that resulted in a vote to grant or deny a variance to the owner, since the city ordinance does not allow the height. The spokesperson stated his purpose is to supply the council with more information; he informed the council that the owners of the property in question were prepared to comply with the council's decision. If the city saw fit to withdraw its approval of the plan it would require them to change their design. Alderman John Szeszycki voiced an opinion as to the ordinance being in place for the building code and that the law should be followed or it might set a future precedence of like requests. The Building Commissioner understood what Alderman Szeszycki was talking about but there are taller vans that require higher doors. The majority of homes cannot change their elevation but there was an exception in Alderman Zimmerman's ward where an owner became creative and raised a garage another foot or so. The Commissioner did not see a problem as the ordinance can be changed but he did not advice a 10'rule; a 9' height would be sufficient. Mayor Mike Howley added, "In this particular case the architect designed it that way and the city kind of missed it... it's no excuse for the architect not following the code." The Mayor had no objection and the council voted to pass the variance.

Endnotes: Mayor Howley announced that the Flying High Gym located at 7711 W. 99th Street is having a grand opening and open house on October 19th and City Clerk stated that St. Patricia School was seeking permission to place signs for an upcoming Super Bingo to be held on November 17th and signs for their Craft Show held on November 24th and the council agreed. Police Chief Alan Vodicka reported that 3 vehicles were auctioned and brought in approximately $12,000.00 in revenue. Public Works issued a request for a complete removal of 20 trees with an additional 17 stubs. Three proposals were reviewed for a tree removal contract; the award went to Benitez Tree Service a company the city has utilized for the past few years and is satisfied with their service.

Hickory Hills Veteran's Day ceremony

Please do not forget to join us for our annual Hickory Hills Veteran's Day Ceremony held in the park immediately west of City Hall, on Saturday, November 9th at 11:00 a.m. Members of Palos Memorial Post 1993 will once again direct the ceremony, along with our police color guard and fellow veteran Jim Kruse, the Adoptaplatoon Director. We would love a great turnout of adults and children alike as this will be a great way to express our appreciation and thank all who served in the United States Armed Forces. For more information and details call.The City of Hickory Hills, at 708-598-4800

Oak Lawn approves amendment to ethics ordinance

by Matt Mayer

Officials discussed an ordinance amending a title and a section regarding conflicts of interest and improper influence at the Oct. 8 Oak Lawn Board of Trustees meeting. Trustee Bob Streit (D-3) said, "It isn't a good ordinance if it doesn't apply to everyone. For example Former Trustee Tom Phelan, who created the infamous "Hit List" and influences this administration, works for Wells Fargo. Under this ordinance he would be able to receive business from the village if the ordinance was passed", said Streit. "Lets close all the loop holes because it isn't a good ordinance unless it applies to everyone". Streit was referring to Village Manager Larry Deetjen's comment at a previous board meeting that Wells Fargo was interested in getting business from the village.

Streit also said the ordinance needs to apply to all officials including village manager. Mayor Sandra Bury, board members and attorneys. But following the discussion, the amendment to the ordinance was approved.

Another topic of discussion was the relocation of the longtime village operated Senior Center, which was located on 95th Street. In 2013 the village sold the parcel of stores, which also housed the Chamber of Commerce and a parking lot to Beverly Bank for $1.8 million to help plug a budget shortfall. At this time the village entered into an intergovernmental agreement with McGugan School, 5220 W. 105th Street. Following a backlash, the village began to seek another site to better serve the seniors. A memo sent by the village informed seniors that the village board authorized Village Manager Larry Deetjen to explore the feasibility of transferring the Senior Center to the Park district for the renovation of the bath house at the former Memorial Park pool, 102nd and Major Avenue, which closed a few years ago, into a free standing Senior Center.

Bury said the Park District is better equipped than the village to provide services to seniors. Trustee Carol Quinlan said the mayor has never explained why the Memorial Park pool bathhouse was chosen as a preliminary site or discussed how renovations would be funded. The village board should meet with seniors before the proposal moves forward. This is a terrible idea, Quinlan added.

A freedom of information request regarding an intergovernmental agreement between the village and the park district regarding senior services and a senior center provided no information, said Streit. "They do exist", said Bury. Streit countered and said if they exist the village needs to provide them. Bury has totally disregarded the Senior Citizens Commission by not seeking their input on her proposal, Streit added.

Evergreen Park Recreation Department events

The Evergreen Park Recreation Department, 3450 West 97th Street. The phone number is (708) 229-3373.

Beyond the Arc Academy will partner with the Evergreen Park Recreation Department for an instructional league. Players will receive a team shirt and play 40 minute games with equal playing time. Players will participate in 3 week skills and drills, focusing on the fundaments of individual and team play followed by 5 weeks of team play. The league will be held on Sundays, 3:00-5:00 p.m. Call for more information or to register.

The Evergreen Park Recreation Department is offering adult coed volleyball at Central Jr. High School on Mondays from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Fee is $5.00 per night. Call to register.

The Evergreen Park Recreation Department is offering to run birthday parties for 3-10 year old's. The parties will be held at the community center on Saturdays from 1:00-2:30 p.m. Call for availability.

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 20 | October 15, 2013

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Joe Rizza Ford wins bid award from Orland Park

by Jan Glaz

Orland officials awarded Joe Rizza Ford, located at 8100 W. 159th Street, bid awards for the purchase of Public Works Vehicles, on October 7th at the Village of Orland Park Board of Trustees Meeting. For the Utility Division Trucks the 2013 Fiscal Year Budget approved a line item in the amount of $175,000 for the purchase of two F350 Trucks. The trucks will replace a 1998 Chevrolet dump truck with 66,785 miles and the other will replace a 2000 Chevrolet van with 75,000 miles. Rizza's bid price for one 2014 model year F350 Regular Cab was $79,427.35 and their price for one 2014- F350 Extended Cab and Chassis with aftermarket equipment was $81,983.35.

In regards to the Public Works Street Division Dump Trucks the 2013 Fiscal Year Budget approved a line item in the amount of $226,000 for the purchase of two dump trucks for the Public Works Street Division. The trucks will replace a 1997 GMC light duty dump truck with 145,714 miles and the other will replace a 1998 Chevrolet medium duty dump truck with 110,612 miles. Joe Rizza's bid for two 2014 model year F550 regular 4WD Cab and Chassis equipped with plows, salt spreaders and other aftermarket equipment, $177,298.30.

A discussion ensued in regards to Signage as signs are being removed in Orland Park due to the LaGrange Road street widening project. Orland Park officials are busy weighing the pros and cons of using electronic signs and are planning a revamp of the Village signage ordinance. Keloryn Putnam, executive director from the Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce, urged the board to get moving on the issue, saying that chamber ambassadors have talked to hundreds of businesses up and down LaGrange and businesses are asking about what they can do about signs. According to the code, only 25 percent of the sign can be electronic and there is a blinking code. Ideas were tossed around; one involved adding electronic messages on signs, since there are only certain areas where message boards are allowed; another is to prohibit images, and to not allow the messages to change more than once every 24 hours. The board had approved temporary signage during the construction project, so they can take the time to really establish the best possible solution.

Liquor license go around: Motions passed to increase the number of Class A liquor licenses from 59 to 60 for Yucca restaurant, 16081 South LaGrange Road. Increase the number of Class B liquor licenses from 22 to 23 for Trader Joe's to allow packaged sales of alcoholic liquor in addition to their current packaged beer and wine sales. Increase the number of Class C liquor licenses from 10 to 11 for Italio Modern Italian Kitchen, 15139 South LaGrange Road. Decrease the number of Class D liquor licenses from one 1 to zero, as Trader Joe will change to a Class B License. Sorting it out: Classes A and B apply to off-premises retailers—liquor stores, grocery stores, and wholesalers. Classes C and D apply to on-premises retailers such as restaurants, taverns, and hotels.

Newsworthy endnote: An Ordinance passed for Disposal of Computer Equipment. The Police Department has 18 desktop computers, 4 laser jet printers and 5 computer monitors that are outdated and no longer work. The items will be donated to Infinitec Assistive Technology Programs and Services located in Tinley Park. This company refurbishes donated technology equipment and gives them, free of charge, to Illinois children in Special education programs.

Wal-Mart opposition in Tinley Park

by Jan Glaz

A concerned resident faced off against officials at the Tinley Park Board of Trustees Meeting on October 1st. The resident reported on a list of facts and pertinent information he compiled against the opening of a proposed Wal- Mart at 191st near Harlem Avenue. Around 5 years ago, Wal-Mart attempted to develop the site and now is showing renewed interest in the property. Mayor Ed Zabrocki and the board of trustees upheld their position that Wal-Mart would be a positive addition to Tinley Park in the form of collecting tax revenue from long vacant land that is owned by Lincoln-Way School District 210; land that is difficult and expensive to develop. Also favorable is the creation of hundreds of new jobs and the prospect of $10 million dollars in revenue for property taxes to the Frankfort Square Park District and two additional school districts, within the first 10 years of Wal-Mart's operation. The proposed revenue will not lower residential property taxes. Residents are opposed to granting Wal-Mart officials their request for millions of dollars in tax abatements from surrounding school districts and they are fearful of the loss of small businesses in the area, who are trying to survive in a downturn economy. Wal-Mart refuses to build unless the districts rebate approximately $4.4 million within the first years of doing business. In reply to a second citizen's question as to whether anything is formally proposed. Trustee Hannon assured the citizen that there is no formal request and then outlined a procedure: A village review sent to the plan commission; plan commissioners appointed to work with the developer; that information is presented back to the plan commission. There will be a minimum of 3 public hearings in regards to the issue, said Hannon.

Endnotes: The Board of Trustees adopted a Resolution approving and recommending Cook County Class 8

Reclassification with special circumstances for the property located at 17210 South Oak Park Avenue (Donald Ross). The resolution supports the reclassification of the assessment from 25% to 10% for a 10 year period. The Class 8 property tax re-classification in the Downtown Legacy District is deemed necessary to make the vacant property marketable and competitive for new tenants. Also approved: a request from Family Outreach Program to conduct a TAG DAY fundraiser on Wednesday, October 25th and Thursday, October 26th at certain intersections throughout the Village. The Family Outreach Program is one of the largest distributors of food to the needy in the Greater Chicago Counties.

Oak Forest may eliminate Metra parking lot

by Jan Glaz

The cost of maintaining the Metra Parking Lot Southwest of 157th and Cicero raised questions at the Oak Forest City Council Meeting held on October 9th. Since the city maintains multiple commuter parking facilities near the train station part of their maintenance program includes sealcoating and restriping parking stalls. Oak Forest Public Works has patched portions of the 157th Street lot and sealcoating is needed to complete the maintenance at that lot for this year. When Alderman Simon, in regard to the Waverly location, mentioned that the lot "seemed to be a waste" his remark sparked a reply from City Administrator Troy Ishler. "Alderman, I agree and I've checked with Metra on the possibility of eliminating that parking lot from our responsibility. I've discovered that we have a 20 year agreement with Metra that expires in 2016, so at the beginning of 2016 it will be coming before the council to possibly eliminate that lot." Mayor Henry Kuspa questioned Troy Ishler, "Are we obligated with our agreement with Metra to keep it in good repair?" Ishler answered, "Yes and we have in the past received notices from Metra what they call deficiencies in maintenance." Alderman Ensign asked where the money to sealcoat came from. Rinchich answered; the commuter parking lot funds, police department collections... these are budgeted funds. The city council voted to approve a contract with Onyx Sealcoating of Midlothian, as they were the lowest responsible bidder, at $12,900.

Before the meeting adjourned council members discussed renewing an agreement with Catherine M. O'Connor, C.P.A, to act as a payroll service outsourced provider. City Treasurer JoAnn Kelly questioned Finance Director Colleen M. Julian if she requested quotes from anyone else as it is always a good idea to look around.

Julian replied that she did not do that for years because Catherine has provided a more personalized service and they have a long working relationship. Colleen then agreed with Treasurer Kelly that it is time and in reference to the future said. "I can do that." Alderman Hortsman was also concerned about what other sources might offer and felt the city should do alternative inquiries maybe every 5 years. The term of the contract with Catherine M. O'Connor was approved for two years with a 3% annual increase to fees. The proposed annual fees are $29,333 and $20,943, for the year beginning October 1, 2013 and October 1, 2014. Hourly compensation is being increased 2% to $60.00 for additional assigned duties.

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SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 14 | Number 20 | October 15, 2013

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Palos Heights approves sidewalk project

by Matt Mayer

Officials approved a motion recently at the Palos Heights City Council meeting to authorize Mayor Robert Straz to enter into an agreement with Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ), which is a federally funded program for surface transportation, designed to improve air quality and mitigate congestion and the RTA, for grant funding for the installation of sidewalks at various locations in Palos Heights.

Under the terms of the agreement, the city will be reimbursed its share of 20 percent of the cost of the project, which equates to $124,050.00 that will be paid by the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA), which is sponsoring the project. The project was recommended by the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), said Straz. The sidewalks are slated to be poured this month from 119th Street and Harlem Avenue west to 76th Avenue.

Additional information regarding CMAQ may be obtained by visiting their website at www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/air_quality/cmaq/. Additional information regarding CMAP may be obtained by visiting their website at www.cmap.illinois.gov/.

Ald. Jack Clifford (2nd Ward) unveiled a new sign, which will be installed at the renamed Veterans Play lot at near 124th and Natchez. A public re-dedication is set for Saturday, Oct. 19 at 2 p.m. The sign is named in honor of the life's work of Palos Park resident and World War II Combat Veteran Donald A. Dahl, Sr., who passed away in August 2012.

Dahl was know as a "Veteran's Veteran" and worked for years to aid veterans, and remind younger generations to appreciate the sacrifices made before them. The new play lot also honors the sacrifices of all military veterans including those who made the ultimate sacrifice, said Clifford.

In other business, the city council approved an ordinance amending sections of the municipal code requiring property owners to be current on outstanding debt with the city prior to obtaining any type of building permit. Fees shall be paid to the city collector.

South Suburban Major Crimes Task Force remains in former Village Hall

by Matt Mayer

Following a discussion between village officials and village attorney George Witous regarding repairs that the South Suburban Major Task Force (SSMTF) have made to the former village hall on 107th street, officials approved a three year lease extension from the date of the meeting for the Major Crimes Task Force.

Mayor Chuck Tokar requested a motion from the board to purchase an additional $5,000 worth of transformers and approximately $10,000 worth of pole lighting. Trustee Jack Lind said he didn't care for the decorations that were purchased last year. Tokar said he would be happy to have any of the trustees look at the hundreds of decorations available. Whichever one people want to go with is fine. The LED's are the way to go because they draw less energy and have a longer life. We budgeted $25,000 I'd like to use $15,000 of that for the decorations, said Tokar. The request was unanimously approved. The additional decorations will be along Ridgeland Avenue to 111th Street according to public works director.

Tokar asked Witous about three separate documents regarding the incorporation of the village according to the Secretary of States office. The village was incorporated on September 1, 1914. This is the official date of record with the State of Illinois for incorporation, said Witous.

Tokar gave an update on the Centennial Anniversary: Pat Grow and Debra Kaplar were added to the community festival committee. Monica Fletcher, Diane Luna and Monica Hernandez were added to the parade committee. Troy Rancy and Rich Blackwell were added to the dinner dance committee and Alice Lasky was added to the general committee. She hasn't been assigned to a certain committee as yet, said Tokar. Tokar also named Mayor Emeritus Eugene L. Siegel as honorary chair of the 100th Anniversary Event.

Palos Hills Recreation upcoming schedule

Haunted Hills of Palos.

Haunted Hayride

Come take a ride to be terrified, the Palos Hills Resource and Recreation Dept. will be hosting The Haunted Hills of Palos-Haunted Hayride. The event will take place at 108th and Roberts Road, on October 18th and 19th from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. The hayride goes through a wooded area that is haunted by ghouls and goblins that have been haunting these woods for many years. Tickets are $5 per person and $3 for children ten and under. Tickets are on sale at the Palos Hills Community Center located at 8455 W. 103rd Street, Palos Hills. Tickets can be purchased on the grounds both nights. For more information, please call 708-430-4500 or email us at recreation@paloshillsweb.org.

Halloween Happenings. Not So Scary Hayride

The Palos Hills Resource and Recreation Dept. will be hosting its Halloween Happenings. Not So Scary Hayride on October 19th from 2:00pm to 4:00pm. This event is located at 108th and Roberts Road. Children's tickets are $5 and children under 1 year old and adults are free. There will be lots to do, including a Not So Scary Hayride, a Bounce House, Entertainment, Crafts, Face Painting, Goodie Bags and a Story Teller. Tickets are on sale for this event at the Palos Hills Community Center located at 8455 W. 103rd Street, Palos Hills. If you would like more information about this event please call us at 708-430-4500 or email us at recreation@paloshillsweb.org.

Palos Hills 5th Grade Fall Bash

The Palos Hills Resource and Recreation Department will be hosting a "5th Grade Fall Bash". This event will take place at the Palos Hills Community Center (8455 W. 103rd Street, Palos Hills), on November 8th from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. Tickets for this event are $1 and they come with a hot dog and a bag of chips. Other refreshments will be sold for a nominal fee. This event is only for 5th graders that reside in the School District 117/118. There will be a Dj, Dancing, Games, Foods, Open Gym, Nintendo Wii, Ping Pong and Air Hockey. If you would like more information about this event please call us at 708-430-4500 or email us at recreation@paloshillsweb.org.

Dear Resident,

The Village of Worth has been fortunate enough to receive assistance from the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) by obtaining a planning grant. This planning grant focuses on our business district and zoning planning, and will assist in creating our long range plan for the Village of Worth. This grant is awarded to a limited number of municipalities annually, and we are proud to have been chosen.

The Economic Development Commission (EDC) and Village board are looking for your assistance in offering honest opinions on the business, social and economic climate in the Village of Worth. A team of representatives from CMAP is looking for residents to interviews in the month of October. We are asking for your participation in this project. We feel this will benefit the future business owners as well as residents in town. By setting fourth an attainable long range plan, we feel that we can assist the Village with future planning needs.

Please know that as active participants in community organizations, your input is valuable. All responses will be kept confidential.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 708-218-0238, or by email at emcelroy@villageofworth.com. Our Economic Development COmmission meets every second Thursday of the month at 7pm in the Village Hall. You are welcome to attend with any questions you may have. If for some reason if a representative, please contact me with your information so I can pass on your information.

Sincerely,
Colleen McElroy
Village of Worth Trustee

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B-MAC EDITION

Volume 7 | Number 20 | October 15, 2013

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Big steel bikes and the Blues fuel sixtytwo thousand dollars donation to Cal-Sag Trail

Friends of the Cal-Sag Trail presented Mayor Domingo Vargas and the City of Blue Island with a check for $62.000 September 24 at Blue Island's city council meeting. Blue Island is a lead agency for the 10-member Cal-Sag Trail Coalition, the communities and public agencies participating in the 26-mile. south suburban trail's construction.

Global steel manufacturer ArcelorMittal contributed $32.000 to Friends of the Cal-Sag Trail for the project. ArcelorMittal operates a facility in Riverdale. Illinois. which is a member community of the Cal-Sag Trail Coalition.

PeopleForBikes. a national coalition of bicycle companies, retailers and suppliers. also contributed $10.000 towards the project. Since 1999. PeopleForBikes has spent more than $30 million to improve and expand cycling in America. More information is available at http://peopleforbikes.org.

The donation allows the coalition to receive $450.000 in federal funding secured by U.S. Senator Dick Durbin for the trail's wayfinding signs and trailhead arbors in 2010. Federal trail grants typically require 20% matching funds from state or local sources.

The signs and the arbors will be manufactured this fall and winter for installation when Cal-Sag Trail construction begins in Summer 2014. Illustrations of the designs are viewable at http://calsagtrail.org/FOCST/wayfindingplan.

Chicago's rich Blues heritage provided the remaining $20.000 of the Friends' donation, who raised the funds through its annual benefit Bridges & Blues in 2012. This year. Bridges & Blues features Delmark recording artist Torouzo Cannon at Moraine Valley Community College in Palos Hills on October 19. More information about Bridges & Blues, including table sponsorship, is available at http://hridgesandblues.org.

To date, more than 16 miles of the 26-mile trail has received construction funding totaling more than $9 million from federal programs. Friends' Executive Director Steve Buchtel thinks that the public's excitement over the trail's construction will continue to boost interest in public and private trail sponsorship.

"For a donor or sponsor, it's pretty unique to have a major south suburban project give you a chance to help local economies, and benefit the environment, and improve the health and well-being of people all at the same time." says Buehtel. "That's the Triple Bottom Line of this trail."

Friends of the Cal-Sag Trail is a volunteer, non-profit corporation whose mission is to build the Cal-Sag Trail and promote and expand the Triple Bottom Line impact for all Cal-Sag communities.

More information on the Cal-Sag Trail and the Triple Bottom Line can be found at calsagtrail.org, or contact Steve Buchtel at 708/365-9365.

Midlothian explores the Geographic Information System

by Jan Glaz

At the October 9th Village of Midlothian Board Meeting Trustee Karen Kreis reported that as a member of the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association (SSMMA) Midlothian is part of the Geographic Information System Consortium (GISC) and invited officials to a demonstration set up by the organization. The Village is interested in improving their technical support system capabilities to track important data. The goal of the GIS Consortium is to influence this dynamic by reducing costs while providing innovative solutions to local government's needs. The GIS provides an alternative at a time when communities are increasingly required to do more with less and allows communities to leverage this information-resource for purchasing, setup, and system maintenance. The GIS model enables communities to gain access to all necessary professional resources without the fulltime cost burden.

Mayor Sharon Rybak announced that she had met with a business owner who offered to donate money toward the purchase of an ambulance for Midlothian. Rybak said the owner, a few months back, wanted to donate towards radios for the village but at that time a meeting could not be set up. Rybak will disclose the amount of the donation once it is received. A motion carried by the Board of Trustees to approve the purchase of a 2001 International 4000 Ambulance from Foster Coach Sales, Inc. for an amount not to exceed $10,000. The board also approved to temporarily allow Treasurer McDonnell to use Restricted Funds for payment of daily operations. A motion was granted to submit notarized request to receive vehicle information form the Secretary of State and to obtain Access Agreement at a cost of $500.00.

Newsworthy endnote: The development of 147th Street and Cicero advanced a step when the board approved to execute agreements with Environmental Protection Industrics and First Equity Group, LLC to represent the Village. Two Officers; Devries and Tavormina will attend the Annual Training Conference in Oak Brook at a cost of $295.00 each. Trustee Schavone shared information that the Midlothian Dollar Tree located at 14800 and Pulaski planned to open on Sunday, October 13th.

Alsip's agreement with Hitchcock Design Group has a hitch

by Jan Glaz

On October 7th the Village of Alsip Board of Trustees voted positive to an agreement with Hitchcock Design Group, but with a hitch. Trustee John Ryan requested a stipulation be added setting a dollar amount to expenses within the agreement. When Mayor Patrick Kitching questioned Trustee Ryan on the amount Ryan replied $5,000. Thus, Alsip will enter into an agreement with Hitchcock Design Group to provide Final Design services for the Pulaski Road Streetscape Improvements for $86,900, plus hourly rates for Construction Services with the stipulation that hourly rates not exceed $5,000 and finalization of the brand artwork for $3,459, plus printing and travel expenses. These expenses are covered under the Pulaski Avenue TIF. The approved agreement is a step forward in the redevelopment of a declining commercial corridor that has suffered from decades of poor planning. The project will enable Alsip to have what it has lacked; a pedestrian friendly, economically sound, downtown area.

Trustees voted yea to a list of items before the meeting adjourned, among the noteworthy: An Ordinance to Grant Salary Increases and Establish Compensation for Certain Non-Union Employees of the Village of Alsip, Cook County, Illinois and a request for an Intergovernmental Agreement Between the Village of Alsip and Moraine Valley Community College, District No. 524 for the Use of Village of Alsip Facilities. The Village agreed to contract with Frazier Concrete of Tinley Park, the lowest bidder, for the 2013 Annual Sidewalk Replacement project in the amount of $72,225. A resolution passed for Donson Machine, Inc. located at 12419 S. Keeler Avenue for a class 6b Real Estate Tax Incentive Application. One new employee will be hired for the position of a Class Two Operator to fill a vacancy, due to a recent promotion; Union guide lines will be followed. A request was granted to hold a one day auction on October 22nd for the PPL Group from 8 am to 2 pm, for Palos Electric Company at 5440 West 122nd Street. Alsip will be seeking bids for the replacement of the Sanitary Lift Station just off 119th and Cicero and bids for the removal of Ash trees from all the Village parkways. The removal of Ash trees has been appropriated for the 2013/14 budget.

Crestwood residents no longer given leeway for illegal parking

by Jan Glaz

Word is out in Crestwood, no longer will Crestwood police occasionally bypass issuing parking citations to residents illegally parked on any Village street between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. and fair warning is passed on to non-residents as well. All can expect a ticket. It's reported that the strict enforcement of the Village wide parking ordinance is a positive one, as it provides open access for fire and rescue equipment during overnight hours and eliminates past inconsistencies in the issuing of citations. In addition, similar to other communities, the Village has areas with narrow streets that are especially hazardous to the passage of large Fire Trucks and emergency vehicles. Warnings are posted on 'Welcome to Crestwood' signs throughout the Village and the Village is requesting citizens to notify their late night and overnight guests of the law. The initial fine for violation of the ordinance is $75.00.

During the public portion of the Village of Crestwood Board of Trustees Meeting held on October 3rd Mayor Lou Presta answered a question asked by a resident in regards to whether the Village had available money in the budget to remodel the Crestwood Recreation Center. The resident expressed concern and stated that in her estimation it needed updating. Her main complaint, the carpeting in the workout room and the sound system attached to the televisions, as most were not working. The Mayor assured the resident that he would address the problem. The Crestwood Recreation & Wellness Center is an aquatic facility located at 5331 W. 135th and is one of the best recreation and fitness centers in the South Suburbs: no enrollment fee; no contracts or hidden fees and they offer month to month, 6-month and yearly memberships along with many other programs and activities. Information is posted on Facebook and the Village of Crestwood Website or at (708-371-4810).

Before the meeting adjourned the board of trustees authorized the Village Attorney to prepare a Special Use Ordinance to permit the sale of used cars and trucks with detailing, no auto repair and no body work, known as EZ Motors Credit, Inc., at 4400 W. 135th Street and also agreed to approve and pass a Special Use Ordinance to permit a used car dealer with a stipulation that no more than seven vehicles can be parked outside the building at 4450 W 137th Place, in Crestwood, Illinois.

Understanding Immigration Reform

by Kelly White

The 2013 Immigration Reform Bill has been receiving its fair share of media, along with activists gathering outside of Congressman Dan Lipinski's office on Archer Avenue, but what does the bill actually mean?

"As a nation, we have the right and responsibility to make our borders safe, to establish clear and just rules for seeking citizenship, to control the flow of legal immigration, and to eliminate illegal immigration, which in some cases has become a threat to our national security," reads the beginning of the 844-page Gang of Eight's immigration reform act, which recently passed with a convincing 68-32 majority in the Senate.

First and foremost, the bill agreed to a proposal that nearly doubles the number of border security agents from 21,000 to 40,000 and calls for 700 miles of new fence, also doubling the original amount, to be constructed along the U.S./Mexico border. This surge in border security will cost approximately $25 billion, according to the Senate. In addition, the same proposal, authored by Republican Senators Bob Corker and John Hoeven, also includes a $3.2 billion high-tech border surveillance plan that will make use of drones, infrared ground sensors and long-range thermal imaging cameras. This project will take approximately 13 years to complete if passed by the House of Representatives.

Immigration reform supporters feel this is literally militarizing the border, and claim Immigration reform is about 11 million people who want to be united with their families and friends without fear of arrest and call the United States their permanent home.

U.S. Senate Officials, including Congressman Lipinski feel the primary purpose of the immigration bill is to lay out a pathway to citizenship for the 11 million undocumented immigrants currently living in the United States.

In an effort to crack down on immigrants who also overstay their visas, the Corker-Hoeven amendment calls for an electronic entry/exit system at all American airports and seaports that tracks when visitors enter and leave the country. The amendment also mandates that all employers in the United States adopt an E-Verify system to prevent businesses from hiring illegal immigrants.

"Immigration reform is not only a matter of doing the right thing, but the smart thing," said entrepreneur John Atkinson of the Illinois Business and Immigration Coalition.

"We should have comprehensive immigration reform. I do support that," Lipinski said. But he worries the bill would be a repeat of a general amnesty measure passed in 1986. Then, legislators were promised there would be better border security, but it never happened, said Lipinski, who has been in office since 2005.

Immigration reform has become a serious enough concern for the Roman Catholic Church that the Archdiocese enacted a campaign for 40 days of prayer for passage of the immigration reform legislation currently under consideration by the U.S. House of Representatives. Those 40 days will conclude with an Archdiocesan pilgrimage entitled Faith and Action on the Journey for Immigration Reform on Saturday, Oct. 19th, beginning at 9:00 a.m. at Holy Name Cathedral, 730 N. State Street, moving to Federal Plaza, 219 S. Dearborn Street, and ending at Old St. Mary's Parish at 1500 S. Michigan Avenue at 1:00 p.m.

Fall Craft and Vendor Fair

Johnson Phelps VFW Ladies Aux.is hosting a Fall Vendor & Craft Fair;

Sunday, October 20th., 10am -3pm; at the Post home, 9514 S.52nd Ave. Oak Lawn,IL; to benefit their Veteran and Community programs.

Shop two floors of vendors and crafts- Tastefully Simple, Pampered Chef, Scentsy, Nomads, Origami Owl, Premier Design, and many more. There will be a Raffle Table, and Bake Sale.

Food/beverages available for purchase. Admission is Free-Call 708-423-5220.

Italian-Yes

Italian-Yes is the title of the book of the Italian American Women's Club with Sister Mary Ventura O.P. and Annette Dixon co-founder.

In this book there are story's about 10 Italian American ladies who wrote about their family's and themselves with pictures and their favorite recipes. This book, Italian-Yes, is for your own family and also future generation.

To purchase Italian-Yes you can contact Sister Mary Ventura at 708-857-2005 and for $20 you can pick up a book at St. Bernadette School at 9311 South Francisco Ave, Evergreen Park, IL. 60805, from 9am to 5pm.

Affordable Care information workshop

State Senator Bill Cunningham and State Representatives Fran Hurley and Kelly Burke will be sponsoring two workshops on Tuesday, October 29, for individuals and small business owners in Illinois to assist residents obtain health care. The sessions will aid with enrollment questions and provide as much information as possible. Local residents are invited to attend either the afternoon workshop between 3 and 5 PM or the evening workshop between 7 and 9 pm at Worth Township. The Township is located in Alsip at 11601 S. Pulaski Rd. Please join us to learn more about the health insurance exchanges that are being implemented in our state. Representatives from the Illinois Health Insurance Marketplace will be on hand to answer individual questions and to make appointments for personal assistance. For more information, please contact Rep. Hurley's constituent service office at: 773-445-8128 or email her at repfranhurley@gmail.com.

Hiring companies invited to upcoming Orland Township Job Fair

Orland Township is hosting a job fair on Tuesday, October 29, 2013 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 14807 S. Ravinia Avenue. Companies that are currently hiring for open positions are invited to attend the job fair. There is no company participation fee.

Representatives may choose to attend the full event or participate in one of two shifts: 10 a.m. to noon or noon to 2 p.m.

A table and two chairs will be provided for company representatives attending and a catered lunch will be served at noon on the day of the fair.

For additional information or to register, please contact Rob Brongiel at (708) 403-4222.

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We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

High Point teacher Amy Kenny accepts the "A Day Made Better" award.

A Day Made Better at High Point School

High Point School, Orland Park, fourth grade teacher Amy Kenny received a surprise visit from the "A Day Made Better" team from Office Max. Amy and her class received an award and a box of school supplies for the classroom valued at $1,000. Mrs. Kenny was nominated based on her dedication to her students and willingness to do whatever she can to make them successful. She has high expectations for her students and teaches them many life lessons along with Common Core State Standards. Upon the surprise visit, Kenny thanked the Office Max team for the wonderful gift and exclaimed what a great day it was for her and her class!

"A Day Made Better" is an annual, one-day event that rewards more than 1,000 educators from around the country with a box of school supplies valued at more than $1,000. The program was started in 2007 to help offset the estimated $1,000 teachers spend on supplies for their classrooms.

High Point Principal Cheryl Foertsch and Assistant Principal Colleen Joyce both commended Mrs. Kenny for her ongoing work with the students, parents and her fellow staff members and said, "High Point students are lucky to have Mrs. Kenny as a teacher!

Ridgeland Corridor Public Meeting

We are working with our neighboring communities to study Ridgeland Avenue between 79th and 135th Streets.

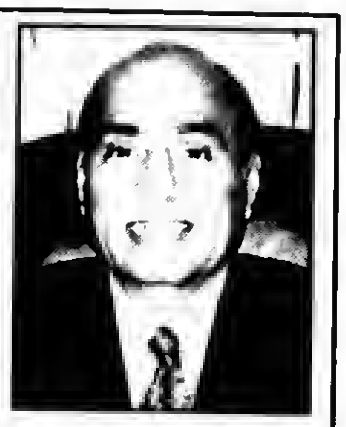
The goal is to transform Ridgeland Avenue into a street that better accommodates businesses, neighborhoods, commuters, bikers and walkers.

Please join us at a Public Information Meeting Tuesday October 29 at 7pm, Chicago Ridge Village Hall.

Visit the project website for more information at https://ridgelandcorridor.wordpress.com/

Funded by the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA), the Ridgeland Avenue Corridor Study is a planning initiative of the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways.

Avila to address American/ National Can Retirees



Commissioner Frank Avila, with the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, will address the American/National Can Retirees, Wednesday, October 16 at 10 a.m., following a 9:30 breakfast at Mabenka Restaurant, 7844 S. Cicero Avenue, Burbank.

Edward Surma, coordinator, announced the commissioner will talk about the Asian Carp problem.

Commissioner Avila has over 40 years of experience as an engineer and land surveyor, lending his talent to over 300 engineering projects. He received his bachelor of science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana and a master of science from the University of Arizona.

Lois S. Viverito Senior Center to host Reavis High School Art Club for Craft Project

The Louis S. Viverito Senior Center located at 7745 S. Leamington, Burbank will be hosting a Halloween craft making project with the Reavis High School Art Club on Wednesday, October 23, 2013 at 3 pm. Join us for a fun hour of crafting with the Reavis Art Club. Participants will decorate a Halloween themed glass jar. To register please call (708) 636-8850.

Stickney Township Office on Aging has been servicing the communities of Burbank, Stickney, Forest View, Central Stickney and Nottingham for over 100 years. Stickney Township offers a variety of services and program for older adults and their family members.

For further information please call (708) 636-8850 or visit www.townhipofstickney.org.

Attend St. Xavier's Fall Campus Visit Day

Meet with faculty, staff and students and discover the many reasons why students choose a Saint Xavier education at Fall Campus Visit Day from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Sun., Oct. 27.

Learn about our academic programs, campus life, scholarship and financial aid opportunities, and much more at SXU's Chicago campus, located at 3700 W. 103rd St.

Prospective students and their families will have the opportunity to:

Meet faculty from our top-ranked academic programs in the College of Arts & Sciences, School of Education, Graham School of Management, and School of Nursing.

Tour SXU's beautiful 74-acre campus nestled in the scenic Mt. Greenwood neighborhood of Chicago.

Find out more about the affordability of an SXU education from our financial aid professionals.

Learn more about the student experience and campus life through first-hand testimonials by current Saint Xavier students.

If you are interested in attending, please register online by Tues., Oct. 22 by visiting www.sxu.edu, keyword: visit day. For questions, please contact the Office of Admission at (800) 462-9288 or admission@sxu.edu. We look forward to seeing you on campus!

Veterans Day, Seniors Events,
Discounts, Sales,
advertise
in our November 5 issue.
Call Linda at 708-425-1910
or visit www.vvnew.com.

HOLIDAY CRAFT SHOW AND CHILI COOK-OFF!

Village of Thornton Recreation Department

CRAFTERS WANTED!
$30.00
10 x 10 space
Electric available
Space is limited!

Holiday Craft Show
Saturday, October 26th
10:00 AM to 2:00 PM
FREE General admission
Thornton American Legion
109 N Williams St.

CHILI COOK OFF!
12:00 PM During the Craft Show
$20.00 Registration Fee
1st place wins $100.00
and bragging rights!
Winners announced at 2:00 PM

Register at the Thornton Recreation Center
701 Highland Ave, Thornton IL
Call 708-877-4454
thorntonrec@yahoo.com
Applications taken no later than October 23rd
Like us on Facebook!

Out and About

with Kelly White

Alsip

Classic Movie Monster Mash Family Program at the Alsip-Merrionette Park Public Library, 11960 South Pulaski Road, on Sunday, October 27th at 2:00 p.m. Families can celebrate Halloween early with these classic movies: Dracula, Wolfman, Frankenstein and many more. Steven Frenzel of Marquee Movie Presentations will tell stories behind these timeless characters. Light refreshments will be provided. This family program is best for those 10 years and up. Free tickets are available to Alsip-Merrionette Park Public Library cardholders at the Youth Services Information Desk thirty minutes prior to the performance. Programs are first come, first served. Doors open at 1:45 p.m., for more information please call 708-926-7024.

Blue Island

Halloween storytellers will be sharing Halloween stories appropriate for all ages on October 25th, 26th and 27th at Meadows Golf Club, 2802 W. 123rd Street, from 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Pumpkins, food and drink will be available for purchase. For more information, please call 708-385-1994.

The Blue Island Park District is now offering great Zumba classes at Memorial Park's Field House, 12804 South Highland Avenue. Register for eight weeks of Wednesday sessions for only $50/resident and $60/non-resident. Each hour long class is held on Wednesdays at 6:15pm. Limited space is available. For more information, please call 708-385-3304.

Midlothian

November 14th at 7:00 p.m. professional appraiser Rex Newell of Rex's Antiques will discuss current trends in the antique markets at the Midlothian Public Library, 14701 S. Kenton Avenue. The first 40 registrants may have one hand-held item appraised; only one item per household. Midlothian Public Library residents have priority registration. Non- Residents may register beginning Thursday, November 7th. Limited seating is available. Please call 708-535-2027 to register or register online, beginning November 7th, on the calendar page at www.midlothianlibrary.org.

Oak Forest

The Rotary Club of Oak Forest is looking for donors for its blood drive at the Community Awareness Fair on Saturday, October 19th from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at Oak Forest High School, 15201 South Central Avenue.

Tinley Park

Visit the Farmers Market from 7:00 a.m. to noon Saturdays through October 27th for the best selection of fresh fruits, vegetables, flowers and much more. It is held in downtown Zabroeki Plaza, 17375 Oak Park Avenue.

Chicago Ridge

The Chicago Ridge Public Library, 10400 S. Oxford, is hosting a workshop on "LinkedIN" on Monday, October 21st at 7:00 p.m.

Freedom Park, 6252 W. Birmingham, is having Halloween in the Park for all ages on Saturday, October 26th from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. The Chicago Ridge Park District is inviting all participants with costumes to enter and win a prize! Costumes will be judged on various criteria. Costume judging begins promptly at 10:30 a.m.

Worth

American Legion Marrs-Meyer Post 991, 11001 South Depot, is hosting an Adults Only Haunted Hayride on October 26th at 6:00 p.m. for a $25 fee per couple and $15 per single. The fee includes: beer, wine, hotdogs, hayride and campfire. For more information, please call 708-448-7006.

The Worth Park District, 11500 Beloit Avenue, is offering a "Lights On" Haunted House on Saturday, October 26th from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. For more information, please call 708-448-7080.

Bridgeview

"Southside Ghosts and Spirits" will be taking place on Thursday, October 24th at 6:30 p.m. at the Bridgeview Public Library, 7840 West 79th Street. Resident, Bob Trzeciak, will present tales and history of some famous and infamous hauntings on Chicago's southside. The children's department is showing, "It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown" at the same time so feel free to bring the children. This program is free but we ask that you register in advance so we are able to accommodate everyone. For more information, please call 708.458.2880 ext. 105.

Burbank

Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Burbank at 8607 S. Narragansett will hold its Annual Rummage Sale on Thur. Oct 26 from 9am to 8pm and again on Fri. Oct 27 from 9am to 4pm. On Friday you can fill a brown paper bag for $3.00. Proceeds from the sale will go towards the mission work locally of the church and also for mission work in needy countries For further information, please call the office at 708-599-4780.

Halloween Party and Haunted House at the Newcastle Park Recreation Center, 8050 New Castle Avenue, on Saturday, October 29th from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. for ages 12 and under. All children should dress in costume. For more information please call 708-599-2070.

Pumpkin Decoration is offered at the Newcastle Park Recreation Center, 8050 New Castle Avenue, on Wednesday, October 26th from 4:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m., for ages six to 11 years old. There is an $8 fee for residents and a $12 dollar fee for non-residents. For more information please call 708- 599-2070.

Justice

A haunted hayride will be taking place on Saturday, October 26th from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Commissioner's Park, 7747 S. Oak Grove Avenue, for a $1 fee per person. For more information, please call 708-458-1370..

Hickory Hills

A trip to the Horseshoe Casino will be leaving from Krueger Park, 9100 S. 88th Avenue, on Friday, October 25th. The bus will depart at 8:30 a.m. and return at 4:15 p.m. for ages 21 and up. A $21 fee includes coach bus transportation and lunch. For more information, please call 708-598-1233.

Oak Lawn

Spookview will take place on Saturday, October 22nd from 1:00 p.m. until 5:30 p.m., at 9425 South 55th Avenue. This event is for children 2- 12 years of age. Children must bring their own reusable Trick-n-Treat bag or container. Admission is free but activities range from 50¢ to $2.

Orland Park

Spend the morning at the Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce Community Expo and learn what products and services are available in the community. The Chamber's 24th Annual will be held at Carl Sandburg High School, 13300 S. LaGrange Road on Saturday, October 19 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Palos Hills

Palos Township Health Service, 10802 South Roberts Road, will hold a cholesterol screening on Monday, October 21st from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. A total cholesterol screening is $10 for residents and $15 for non-residents. Call the Health Service to schedule an appointment at 708-598-2441. All screenings are cash only.

Palos Park

Identity Theft Seminar at the Palos Park Library, 12330 Forest Glen Blvd., on Tuesday, October 22nd at 7:00 p.m. Standard Bank Security Director Mike Tardi will show how to protect yourself from fraud schemes, identity theft, and how to secure personal information. Call the library to register at 708-448-1530 or use our handy on-line registration at http://www.palosparklibrary.org/programs.htm.

Palos Heights

A Kids' Garage Sale will be taking place on Saturday, November 2nd from 10:00 a.m. until noon at the Palos Heights Recreation Center, 6601 West 127th Street. Kids of age 4-15 years can bring their gently used toys, games, sports equipment, books and any other items they wish to sell at the Annual Kids Garage Sale. For more information, please visit: http://www.palosheightsrec.org/events/kids-garage-sale/

Moraine Valley announces Business Champion Awards winners

Moraine Valley Community College's Corporate, Community and Continuing Education subdivision has selected the winners of its 2013 Business Champion Awards, which recognize the valuable contributions businesses and their advocates make to the economic development of Chicago's southwest suburbs.

Awards are presented in six categories: Training and Development, Sustainability, Excellence in Government, Philanthropy, Entrepreneur/Small Business Person of the Year, and Women in Business/Leadership Award.

The Training and Development Award will be presented to Priscilla Steinmetz, founder and executive director of the Bridge Teen Center in Orland Park. She is being recognized for the grass roots community center's work in training seventh through twelfth grade students to develop mentally, physically, emotionally, and spiritually in a safe environment. Steinmetz has dedicated her life to working with teens by transitioning a struggling youth program with less than 10 students into a multi-tiered operation serving the interests and needs of 400 suburban teens through after-school programs.

Phil Shea, vice president of sales at Prairie Material, will accept the Sustainability Award. Prairie Materials, located in Bridgview, has established sustainable best practices, including operating several recycling centers that accept used and returned concrete, developing innovative concrete products that partially replace cement with industrial byproducts which prevents industrial waste from clogging landfills, reusing process water, controlling dust, and incorporating a company-wide environmental management system to document best practices.

The Excellence in Government award will be presented to Daniel McLaughlin, mayor of Orland Park, for progressing the village economically, environmentally, culturally, socially, and recreationally. Mayor McLaughlin has attracted a number of new businesses to the village, and created the Residential Rewards Program, Ninety7Fifty on the Park project, the Taste of Orland,

(continued on next page)

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and many other events. Under his leadership, the village has grown and maintained its vitality and low crime rate.

This year the Philanthropy Award will be presented to William Keyser, owner of Florida Plastics/Keyser Retail Solutions, for a $1 million donation to Advocate Hope Children's Hospital in Oak Lawn. The donation helped open a $3.5 million pediatric cancer center at Advocate Christ Medical Center. The Keyser Group is a family-owned business in Evergreen Park that offers expertise and products for local store marketing and merchandising solutions.

Marc Golden, owner of Golden Shoes in Palos Heights, will be presented with the Entrepreneur/Small Business Person of the Year award for celebrating 50 years in business. The store's longevity speaks to his care, concern and business ethic of always making the customers feel important, and being sincere and devoted to them. He truly cares about his clientele.

The Women in Business/Leadership Award will be presented to Andrea Ramirez-Justin, vice president of Old Plank Trail Community Bank. At the bank, she manages governmental and public entity relationships with the bank's community outreach services. Ramirez-Justin is involved in many civic and community activities, is the president of the Mokena Chamber of Commerce, past president of the Professional Women's Network, a member of the Illinois State Treasurer's Office's Banking advisory board, and serves on the Moraine Valley Foundation board. She also has received "The Business Ledger's" Entrepreneurial Excellence Award.

The awards will be presented at the 18th Annual Business Champion Awards dinner on November 6, from 4 to 7 p.m., at the Moraine Business and Conference Center, Building M, on campus, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills. Tickets are $50 each or $380 for a table of eight.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call (708) 974-5714 or email schrimplee@morainevalley.edu.

Cobras hockey players round up turkeys for Together We Cope

South suburban high school students who play with Cobras Hockey Club will gather in Oak Lawn on Nov. 2 to collect turkeys (or cash donations that will be used to purchase turkeys) to benefit Together We Cope, a nonprofit agency based in Tinley Park that assists families in crisis from 22 south suburban communities.

The Saturday turkey drive will take place in front of Stacked Restaurant, 5273 West 95th St. in Oak Lawn from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. The frozen turkeys will be distributed in November to families that receive food assistance from Together We Cope's food pantry. On average, 65 south suburban families per day, five days per week, receive groceries from the TWC pantry.

"This gift of a holiday turkey will be greatly appreciated by families who might not be able to afford it this season because of a crisis in their lives such as unemployment or illness," said Kathryn Straniero, executive director of TWC. "To have their neighbors reach out and remember them this holiday is a very special gesture, and we are grateful to the Cobras Hockey Club for helping us to make this happen."

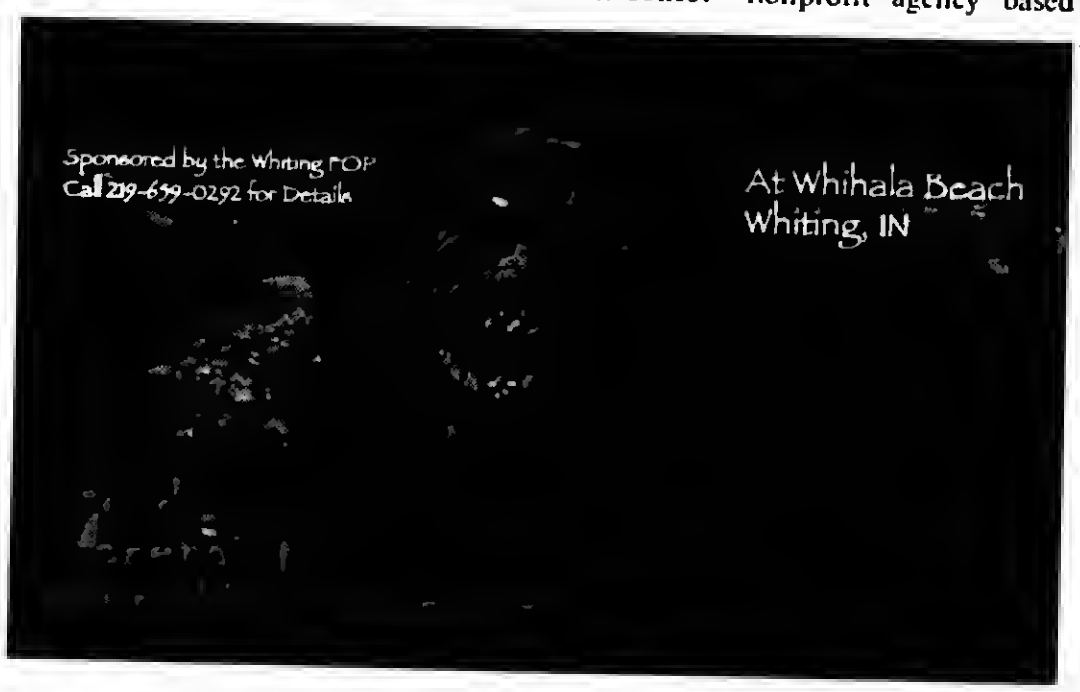
The Cobras organization formed in 1997 and currently serves students from Andrew, Tinley Park, Oak Forest, Oak Lawn, Shepard, Stagg, Richards and Evergreen Park high schools. Its goal is to develop and promote competitive youth amateur hockey in the southwest suburban Chicago region. Cobras home ice is the Oak Lawn Ice Arena, where both junior varsity and varsity hockey players get an opportunity to participate in the sport of ice hockey. Further information on the club is at www.cobrashockey.org.

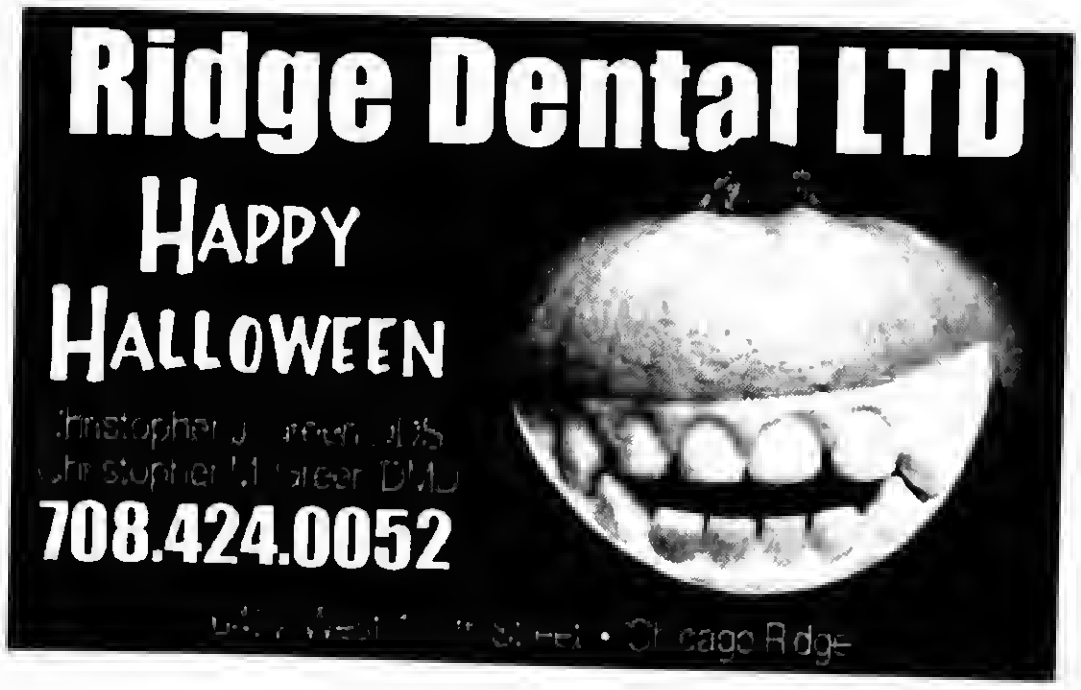
Palos Park Recreation Department presents Paranormal Conference II

Tired of the same old Halloween get together? Intrigued by ghosts, UFOs, crystals, psychics, the power of Chi and more? Paranormal Conference II has it all and will be held 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 19 and 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 20. Over twenty vendors will be on hand in the Grand Ballroom at the Palos Country Club located at 13100 Southwest Highway in Orland Park. $10 admission or $15 for a two-day pass. All proceeds will benefit the Palos Park Recreation Department.

Lectures and Seminars continual both days free to all patrons of the Conference. Topics include: UFOs, Chi Projection Healing, Ghost Hunting, Crystal Work, Past Life Regression Scrying, Alternative Medic, and more. A couple of the wonderfully talented people that are going to be making presentations are Bill Homann, the current caretaker of the world renowned Mitchell-Hedges Crystal Skull and Michael Kleen, author of Hunting Ghosts. This is an event not to miss! You can register at the Palos Park Recreation Department, 8910 W. 123rd St., Palos Park or call 708-671-3760 for additional information.

Start adverting for the Holidays.
Restaurants.
Catering, Bakeries,
Deli's, Banquet Halls,
Party Rooms, Rental,
Limo's, Florists,
Edible Fruits, Gift
Baskets, Sales, call
to advertise, ask for
Linda 708-425-1910.





St. Laurence High School

"Where Leadership Begins"

Presents

Tailgate Trivia Night

Saturday, November 2, 2013

St. Laurence High School • 5556 W. 77th St.
Burbank, Il 60459 (77th & Central Ave.)
708-458-6900 x411 • momsclub@stlaurence.com
Doors Open at 6:00pm Kickoff at 7:00pm

Game Plan:
Ten people to a table (Reserved under one name)
Cost $150.00 Prepaid
Bring your own food or order food from area restaurants
Beer, Wine, Mike's Hard Lemonade, pop and water will be sold
No outside liquor allowed
Raffle / Split the Pot
Please send table request along with payment to:
Attention St. Laurence Mothers' Club
Tables are sold on a first paid basis; no table will be held without payment
Must be 21 years old to attend and play

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Halloween Costumes
& Accessories
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8086 W. 111th, Palos Hills
708-448-0075
Check us out on Facebook

Oak Lawn Village will host 6th annual Pumpkin Festival

The Village of Oak Lawn is sponsoring their 6th Annual Pumpkin Festival on the Village Green on Saturday, October 19, 2013. This event will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Bring the family to enjoy some free fun! The festival will include hay rides, pony rides, and pumpkins for sale! There will also be a pig train, moon jump, and a 90 foot fun slide!!

The Oak Lawn Village Green is located at 94th & Cook Avenue; north of the Oak Lawn Library.

Orland Township Democrats to host Oktoberfest

The Orland Township Regular Democratic Organization will host its Oktoberfest Celebration on Thursday, October 24 at the Orland Park Civic Center, 14750 South Ravinia Avenue.

"We invite everyone to join us," said Orland Township Democratic Committeeman Dan McLaughlin. "This is always a nice event to get together to learn more about the upcoming campaign season," he said.

The festivities will begin at 6 p.m. and will include dinner catered by Palermo's with free beer, wine and soft drinks.

"Democratic candidates for the March primary will be in attendance, sharing their platforms with us," McLaughlin said.

Free flu shots will be available for organization members and seniors.

The event is free for seniors and members of the Orland Township Regular Democratic Organization. Tickets may be purchased at the door for $10 each.

For more information, call 708/860-5664.

Alsip Heritage Senior Apartments
Designed to offer adults 55 years and older self-sufficient, secure, comfortable, and affordable living.
1 Bedroom $715
2 Bedrooms $805

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Zeiler Management, Inc.
12159 S. Pulaski Road
708-597-3333

Palos Park Recreation Department to Scare up a Good Time

A frighteningly fun Halloween Party - Friday, Oct. 25 from 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. at the Palos Park Recreation Department, 8901 W. 123rd St. Get ready to have a screaming good time! Palos Park Garden Guild will provide crafts and pumpkin decorating courtesy of the Palos Lions Club. Halloween excitement with games, inflatable jumpy, costume contests grouped by ages, two outdoor haunted walks, prizes and more. $3 per child at the door for ages 3-10. Call 708-671-3760 for more information.

Oak Lawn PTSA presents the 2013 Craft Show Health Fair and Business Showcase

- Saturday, October 19, 2013 at 10 am till 3 pm.

Oak Lawn High School at corner of 95th Street and Southwest Highway, Oak Lawn, IL. Will be hosting a Holiday Craft Show, Community Health Fair presented by Advantage Pharmacy, and Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce Business Show Case, local business will be there to provide many treats and offers.. Plus for the Kids we are going to have Face Painting.

Not only will you be able to get various health test, flu shots will be given on site.

For those brave enough to get stuck with the needle, you will be offered a free bowl of soup to comfort your soul.

This is a great way to start your holiday season, by supporting the Oak Lawn Craft Show and Health Fair.

Call the Chamber office at 708-424-8300 with any questions. You are supporting Oak Lawn.

MOTHER McAULEY
Liberal Arts High School
3737 W. 99th Street
Chicago, IL 60655
773-881-6566
www.mothermcauley.org
Open House
Sunday, October 20, 2013
11:00am – 1:00pm
&
Tuesday, November 12, 2013
6:00pm – 8:00pm
Honors Information Night
Tuesday, November 5, 2013
7:00pm
Girls Night Out
Friday, December 13, 2013
6:00pm – 9:00pm
Register online at
www.mothermcauley.org
Shadow Days
See what it's like to be a McAuley girl! Call or visit us online to schedule your Shadow Day!

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Signs of Life enters its final two weeks at the Zacek McVay Theater at the Biograph through October 27

Signs of Life takes place in the fortress town of Terezin, located only 40 miles outside of Prague, CZ. During WWII, the Germans occupied the town and renamed it Theresienstadt.

The Germans sent 144,000 people to Theresienstadt but only 17,000 survived. Signs of Life introduces its audience to these world renowned composers, artists, writers, musicians, and explores the paradox in which their own art is forced to become a tool for their own demise.

When asked for her motivation in commissioning this piece, Virginia S. Criste (Commissioner and Producer of Signs of Life) responds, "There was just something impelling about trying to figure out how they lived and what that experience was like, and the contradictions that it posed because in one way it was a very rich, rich artistic community and then in the other way it was a prison."

And in regards to the universality of this piece, Virginia states, "Anyone can get labeled. I mean, we have characters in this show who didn't identify themselves with being Jewish at all, and yet they were discriminated against and they were captured because someone else placed that label on them."

Signs of Life is directed by the head of the MFA directing program at The Theatre School at DePaul University, Lisa Portes. Lisa served as the associate director on the Tony Award-winning musical Tommy and mounted its international productions in Canada, Germany, London, as well as its recent revival at the Stratford Festival Theatre.

When asked about her experience on Signs of Life, Lisa says, "I've never worked on a more challenging or fulfilling musical in my life! Signs of Life is a bold and courageous piece of work that uses the scope and scale musical theatre demands to shine the light into the hidden lives of the artists who were imprisoned in the Terezin Ghetto. These people were trying to cope and make decisions within atrocious circumstances. But they still fell in love. They still made jokes. And most importantly they still sketched and drew and painted and made plays. First, they did so as a way to escape the horrors they saw around them: later, because they were made to by the Nazi Party for propaganda reasons. But finally, they made art to let the world know what was happening. Their art became their revolution."

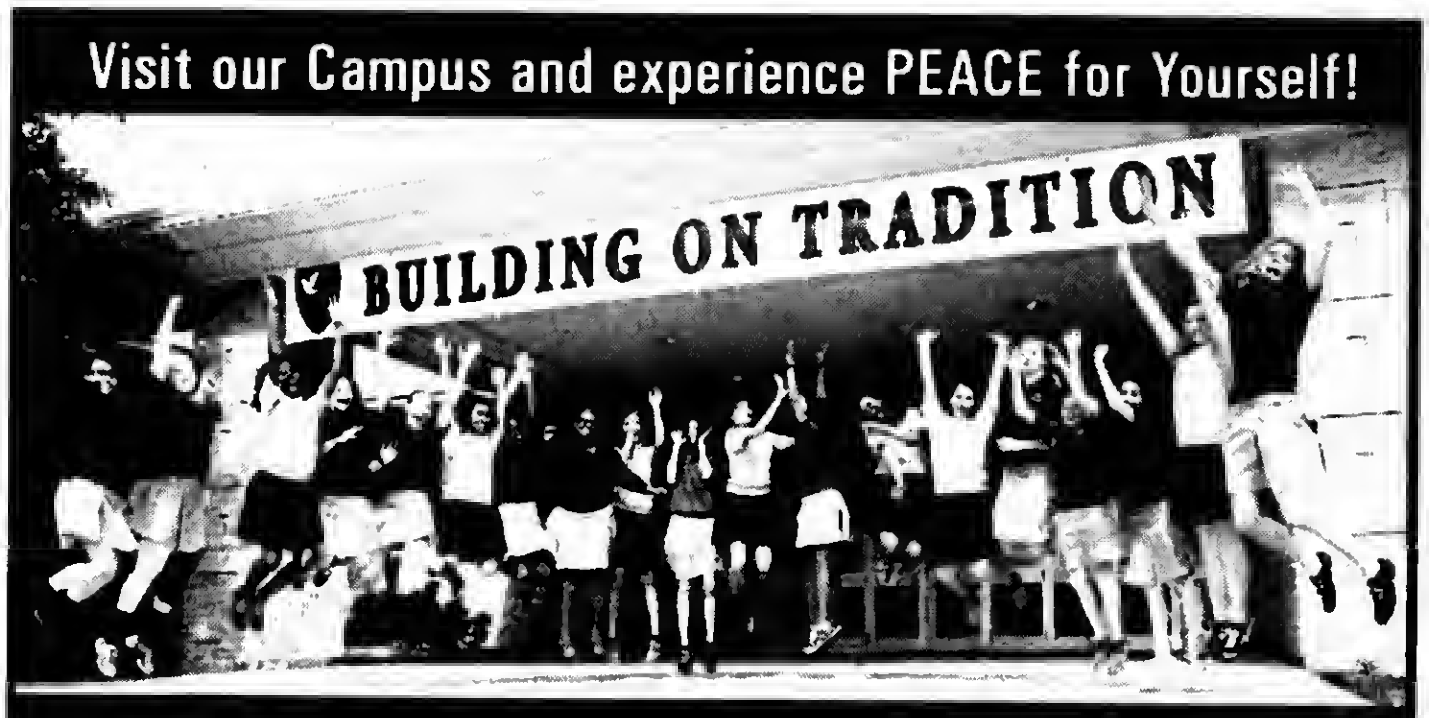
The writing team is comprised of composer Joel Derfner, lyricist Len Schiff, and bookwriter Peter Ullian. Joel is a professor in the musical theater writing program at New York University. Len is an accomplished lyricist, teacher, and journalist, and Peter, most notably, wrote the libretto for Flight of the Lawnchair Man, which was directed by Hal Prince.

Among the remarkable cast is Jason Collins who plays Kurt. Jason has been with Signs of Life since its first workshop. While the show has been received well in each venue it's been in, Collins tells The Chicago Jewish News, "One of the more difficult things is to get people to believe it's not going to be horribly depressing. It's hard to believe that you won't feel punched in the gut. People go to theater to feel good."

Tickets for SIGNS OF LIFE at the Biograph Theater (2433 N Lincoln Ave) range from $45-$65. Discounted tickets are available for seniors ($25), students ($20) and survivors ($20). Individual tickets are available now by calling the Biograph Theater box office at 773.871.3000 or online at www.victorygardens.org. For more information, visit www.signsoflifethemusical.com or www.victorygardens.org.

Worth Township free recycling event

State Senator Bill Cunningham, State Representative Fran Hurley, the Worth Township Senior Club and AT&T are sponsoring a Recycling Event on Saturday, October 19, 2013. People are invited to bring in their confidential documents, personal papers and bank statements to be recycled free of charge. The event will be held at Worth Township located at 11601 S. Pulaski Rd in Alsip, Illinois between the hours of 9 and 11 am.



Mother McAuley president Mrs. Mary Acker Klingenberger. Fathers Club president Scott Allen. freshman Rachel Howard. Mrs. Howard, junior Jessica Howard and principal Mrs. Claudia Woodruff with the winning check.

Mother McAuley Fathers Club presents full year of tuition to raffle winner

The Fathers Club at Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School announced the winner of their annual tuition raffle at the Freshmen Family Picnic in August. All families were invited to enter for the chance to receive a check for one full year of tuition. This year, the Howard family of the Mount Greenwood neighborhood of Chicago won. The excitement was clear to see on the faces of Jessica, a junior, her sister Rachel, a freshman, and their mother as they received the check from Fathers Club president, Scott Allen.

Children's Fall Festival

Good Shepherd Center will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary of serving children with und without disabilities by hosting a "Children's Fall Festival" on Saturday October 26, 2013 from 10:00 am to 1:30 pm. at the Homewood Auditorium, 2010 Chestnut in Homewood. The main attraction will be music and live entertainment by "The Scribblemonster." Other fun activities for children will be arts & crafts, carnival games and a costume parade at 12:30. Free popcorn and cotton candy is provided and hotdogs and pizza will be available for purchase.

Admission is only $5 per person or $20 per family. To ensure prizes for all, payment is required upon registration. Please register by calling Linda at Good Shepherd Center 708-335-0020 x 10 or lrockett@gscenter.org. More information about the agency can be found at www.gscenter.org.

Good Shepherd Center has been serving children with and without developmental disabilities und their families since 1963. Services provided include speech, developmental, occupational and physical therapy; In-Home Respite Care and training opportunities for parents and child care providers. Good

Shepherd Center also hosts the Strong Children ~ Strong Communities conference, one of the largest bilingual networking events in the Chicagoland area, for parents, educators, and child care providers.

Blue Island Park District Softball Tourney

A one day softball event hosted at the Blue Island Park District Centennial Park.

1st Annual Men's "Blind Draft" 16" Softball Tournament Saturday, October 19th, 2013 at Centennial Park, 1732 Vermont Street, Blue Island, IL.

Registration day of tournament, all registered players must play. Registration is 9:30am to 10:30am.

Blind Draft Begins at 10:30am sharp. Games begin 11:30am, 2 game guarantee. Late comers not accepted.

1 and 1 count with open bat format, 96 player max / 8 team maximum, 4 team minimum. Open to all players abilities.

For more information: Call Mark Wilson at 815 351-5330.

Player fee of $10 due upon arrival.

Rain Date Scheduled for Oct. 26th, 2013.

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St. Laurence High School
"Where Leadership Begins"

OPEN HOUSE I
Thursday, November 7, 2013 - 6 to 8 p.m.

PARENT SHADOW DAY
Friday, November 15, 2013
Call the Admissions Office at Ext. 252 to schedule a visit

OPEN HOUSE II
Sunday, December 8, 2013 - 10 a.m. to Noon

ENTRANCE EXAM
Saturday, January 11, 2014 - 8 a.m.
Cost of the exam is $25. Please bring No. 2 pencils.

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Expires 9/30/14 - Offer Code OT15

OPEN HOUSE

MOUNT ASSISI ACADEMY

Sunday, October 20th
1:00 - 3:00 pm
Wednesday, December 4th
6:00 - 8:00 pm

MOUNT ASSISI ACADEMY 15660 Main Street, Lemont, IL 60439

Mount Assisi Academy prepares high school girls to be the next generation of Catholic women leaders. Our gorgeous sixty acre campus is quiet, safe and picturesque. Cutting edge technology is integrated throughout our curriculum with each girl working on her own tablet, along with digitized textbooks. Come be part of our family by the Mount Assisi Academy Family. New this year, we are thrilled to announce the unveiling of...

ROADMAPS

Through a year-long series of expert speakers, hands on activities, and group discussions, Mount Assisi Academy will equip our girls to navigate through life's twists and turns and emerge as confident, independent leaders.

OPEN HOUSE
Wednesday, December 4th
6:00 - 8:00 pm

SHADOW DAYS
Any Monday or Friday through December 13th

SUPER SHADOW DAYS
Friday, November 8th, Monday, November 11th

ENTRANCE EXAM
Saturday, January 11th, 2014 8:30 am

Marnie Isaacs, Enrollment Manager
misaacs@mountassisi.org

Celtic Thunder Mythology at the Chicago Theatre one night only

World renowned Irish supergroup Celtic Thunder performs MYTHOLOGY live at the Chicago Theatre, 175 N. State, on Friday, Oct. 18 at 7:30 pm, as part of their Fall 2013, 62 city Canada and USA tour.

They are known for performing an eclectic mix of songs, ranging from traditional Irish fare to international hits such as "The Boys are Back in Town" and "The Sound of Silence," as well as original compositions including "Voices" and "Hunter's Moon." In addition to the six main vocalists, the tour will also feature strings, guitars, percussion, whistles, pipes and more in the eight-piece Celtic Thunder band. The tour's musical director is David Munro, who also plays keyboards in the show.

Created by Celtic Thunder Producer Sharon Browne, MYTHOLOGY bears all the hallmarks of a Celtic Thunder live show: an impressive and imposing stage resembling an ancient stone pathway drawn from Celtic lore and dramatic effects via lighting and choreography. Celtic Thunder's signature brand of emotive and dramatic storytelling through traditional and contemporary music is found throughout the show. MYTHOLOGY presents the audience with the perfect blend of entertainment, ideology and Gaelic spirituality, providing a modern twist on Celtic folklore.

To purchase tickets to see Celtic Thunder live go to: Celtic Thunder Chicago Theatre Tickets or go to www.Ticketmaster.com or call (312) 902-1500.

For information about the Mythology Tour 2013 please visit www.celticthunder.com/tour

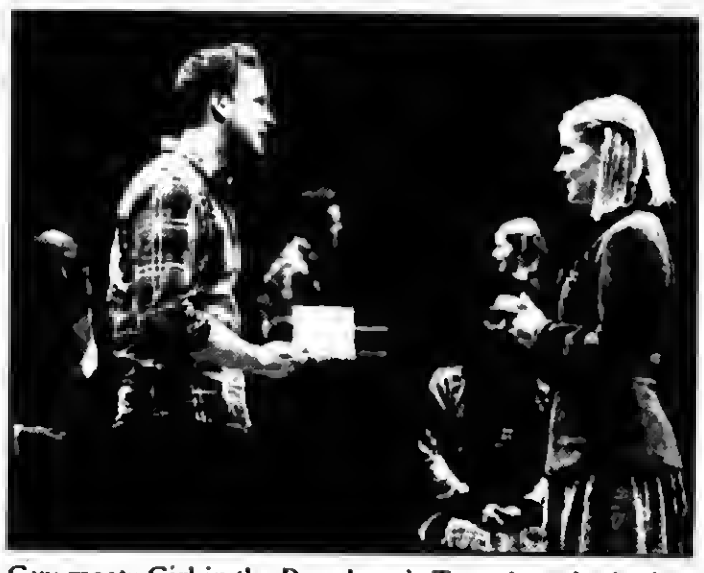
Goodman Theatre presents the world premiere coproduction of Smokefall

Set in Grand Rapids, Michigan, acclaimed playwright and screenwriter Noah Haidle explores the passage of time and the fleeting pleasures of life through three generations of one family in Smokefall, his newest work.

Smokefall was first developed as part of the Goodman's New Stages new play reading series, and was subsequently featured in the prestigious Pacific Playwrights Festival at South Coast Repertory in Costa Mesa, California where it was produced this past spring, directed by Kauffman.

Anne Kauffman (Director) is an Obie Award–winning director. Production highlights include Somewhere Fun at Vineyard Theatre; Detroit at Playwrights Horizons; Belleville at New York Theatre Workshop, Yale Repertory Theatre and Steppenwolf Theatre Company; Tales from My Parents' Divorce at the Williamstown Theatre Festival and The Flea Theater; This Wide Night at Naked Angels; Becky Shaw and Body Awareness at The Wilma Theater; Slowgirl and Stunning at LCT3; Sixty Miles to Silver Lake with Page 73 Productions at Soho Rep; God's Ear at Vineyard Theatre and New Georges; The Thugs at Soho Rep and the new musical We Have Always Lived in the Castle at Yale Repertory Theatre. Upcoming productions include Cherokee at The Wilma Theater and 100 Days at Z Space.

Smokefall is a world-premiere co-production with South Coast Repertory, running until November 3 in the Owen Theatre. Tickets $10 to $40; subject to change, are on sale now at GoodmanTheatre.org/Smokefall, by phone at 312.443.3800 or at the box office (170 North Dearborn).



Guy meets Girl in the Broadway's Tony Award winning best musical ONCE

A lineup of great productions in the month of October

by Annette Dixon

Once opened at the Oriental and will be thrilling the audience until October 27th. This was a great musical where I definitely felt I was in Dublin making music with the guys.

Tickets can be purchased at Broadway in Chicago Ticket Line at 800-775-2000.

The Goodman Theatre has tickets still available to see the Panama Limited Pullman Train speeding from Chicago to New Orleans the night Joe Louis/James Baddock world heavyweight championship took place. Pullman Porter Blues shuffles out after October 20th. For tickets call 312-443-3800 or visit GoodmanTheatre.org.

For the children to appreciate live performances, I too have been introduced to **Chicago Children's Theatre**. Their production of A Year with Frog and Toad can be seen until November 24th.

This is a must see production for not only children but adults also. The location is the Ruth Page Center for the Arts, 1016 N. Dearborn St. Chicago.

Karl Hamilton making his debut as Frog most recently appeared in Disney's The Jungle Book at the Goodman. He also played Captain for six years in the holiday musical The Christmas Schooner.

Playing Toad is Mark David Kaplan who happily returns home to Chicago after completing his second national tour as Zazu the hornbill in The Lion King. He has twice won Chicago's Joseph Jefferson Award and I can understand why. He is a great actor.

Friday, November 1st at 6:00 pm, the performance of A Year with Frog and Toad is Autism-Friendly. All 235 seats are reserved exclusively for families with children on the autism spectrum. This creates a safe, welcoming environment for children with autism, where nobody needs to worry if a child gets loud or active. All seats are $25.

To purchase tickets through Nov. 24th, call 872-222-9555 or visit chicagochildrenstheatre.org

Lookingglass Theatre Company presents the world premiere of The North China Lover

by Annette Dixon

Kicking off its 26th Season at Lookingglass Theatre, The North China Lover world premiere will run until November 10, 2013. This provocative play was so well done that the 90 minutes went too fast. The story was intriguing and who can resist a love story about a first love.

The play was like a film production, it moved quickly and you couldn't see the edited material, which held my attention. The affair plays like a moving picture over and over in your mind, passionate, consuming, secretive and taboo.

The scene was the French Quarter of Southern Indochina in the 1930s where the impoverished 17 year old schoolgirl is about to meet and captivate a wealthy 27 year-old Chinese aristocrat. This affair awakens us into an emotinnal journey watching the two lovers expressing themselves as we once knew an innocent love. The North China Lover transports us on a provocative and effective art of making love, which some people would object to, especially the nude scenes. If it wasn't for the narration of Deanna Dunagan, who breaks the fine line of sleazy versus art, there wouldn't be an excellent play.

The cast includes: Deanna Dunagan (M), Ensemble member Tracy Walsh (Woman in Red); Walter Owen Briggs (Pierre), Amy J. Carle (Mother), Tim Chiou (The Lover), Rae Gray (The Child), JJ Phillips (Paolo), Allison Torem (Helene) and Betti Xiang (Musician).

Designers: Ensemble member Daniel Ostling (Scenic/Lighting), Ana Kuzmanic (Costumes), Artistic Associate Rick Sims (Sound/Composition), Maria DeFabo (Props) and Ensemble member Tracy Walsh (Choreographer).

Target Saturday Matinees offer a limited number of buy one, get one free tickets which are available to all 3:00 p.m. Saturday matinees. Buy online at www.lookingglasstheatre.org or by phone at (312) 337-0665. The Lookingglass box office is located at Water Tower Water Works, 821 N. Michigan Ave.

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Blood Drive & Costume Contest!

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Bring this ad in for 10% off a costume rental.

Cooking ideas

(NAPSA)-Busy families can relish delicious meals with the help of frozen shrimp or seafood. SeaPak Shrimp & Seafood Co. captures the taste of the coast in every bite, offering a variety of products. For recipes ideas and more, find SeaPak on Facebook or at www.seapak.com.

When cooking veggies on the grill, brush them with canola oil. Its high smoke point lets the fresh flavors shine through. Plus, canola oil is high in omega-3 and lower in saturated fat than any other cooking oil. Learn more at www.northerncanola.com.

California avocados add creamy texture and exceptional flavor to favorite dishes while contributing nearly 20 vitamins, minerals and phytonutrients to your diet. They're one of the few fruits that deliver "good" monounsaturated and polyunsaturated fats. For tips and recipes, visit www.CaliforniaAvocado.com.

For a delicious and nutritious afternoon snack, consider Chobani Champions Greek Yogurt Tubes for kids, made with only natural ingredients and real fruit, with 5 grams of protein per serving. Recipes and other tips are at www.chobanichampions.com.

Crafters Corner & More

ANNUAL HOLIDAY CRAFT BAZAAR
Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church
Bake Sale, Raffle, and Food
8426 W. 95 St.
Sat. Nov. 2. 2013
9:00 am to 3:00 pm
708-423-6378

Ladies Day Out
Blue Island Historical Society
13018 Maple Ave.
Sat., Nov. 9.
9am to 3pm
Crafters, Vendors, Raffle, Food
Admission non perishable food item.

Oak Lawn VFW
Craft & Vendor Fair
9514 S. 52 Avenue
Sunday, October 20th
10:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Food, Raffle, Bake Sale
FREE Admission

Advertise in Crafters Corner, call Linda for more information at 708-425-1910.

Holiday Craft Show
Sat. Oct.19. 10am - 3pm
Oak Lawn High School
94th & Southwest Hwy.
Business Health Fair, Flu Shots and various Medical tests, Food, Cream of Chicken Soup and much more.
Free Admission

Santa's Workshop
Craft Fair and Kids Garage Sale
Sat., Nov. 2, 10am to 12pm
Palos Heights Parks and Recreation
6601 W 127th Street
Palos Heights, IL
708-480-3056
Free Admissinn
Space is available

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OUR LADY OF LORETTO CRAFT SHOW
8925 S. KOSTNER - HOMETOWN, IL
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2013
9AM -- 3PM
PAT
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COME JOIN US!!!
Evergreen Park High School PTSA
FALL ARTS & CRAFTS /VENDOR FAIR
Saturday, November 9, 2013 – 8:00 am to 2:00 pm
at Evergreen Park Community High School
9901 S. Kedzie Avenue, Evergreen Park
Crafts / Raffles / Baked Goods / Food Concession
Also come for EPCHS Music Booster Pancake Breakfast 7am-12pm
For more info call Patty at 708-415-2929

Christmas Craft Show
Sat., December 7, 9am - 4pm
Sun., December 8, 11am - 4pm
UNIQUE HOLIDAY GIFTS
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St. Spyridon Orthodox Church
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708-385-2311
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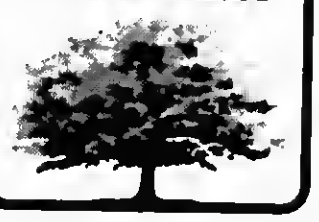

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can (15 oz.) Del Monte(r) Lite Sliced Pears, drained, plus 1/2 cup pomegranate juice for the peaches, and 1/2 tsp. almond extract for the vanilla.

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Please note that you must register for this program which has been rescheduled to begin in October.

We will meet six Mondays at 10:00am beginning Oct. 21st at the Bremen Township Senior Café at 15350 S. Oak Park Avenue, Oak Forest. To register, please call Family Caregiver Specialists, DeWayne Dunigan at 708-271-6265 or Bremen Township at 687-8220.

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Garden quality peaches are a smooth and sweet way to start the day

(NAPSA)-It's important to start the day off right with a nutrient-rich breakfast. For a refreshing way to jumpstart your morning, why not incorporate canned peaches, like Del Monte. They are picked and packed at the peak of ripeness, and provide garden quality nutrients, including vitamins A and C, which help protect your immune system.

"Canning allows us to enjoy the sweet flavor of peaches all year round without skimping on nutrition," said Sarah Ludmer, RD, LN, Nutritionist at Del Monte Foods. "Studies show that canned peaches actually have more folate and beta-carotene than fresh. Plus, there's no mess. Canned peaches are peeled and cut, which means they are ready to add instant flavor to your favorite dishes."

For your next busy morning, give this Peach Breakfast Fruit Smoothie a try. It's ready to be enjoyed in minutes.

Peach Breakfast Fruit Smoothie

Prep time: 4 minutes
Blend time: 2 minutes
Serves 3

Ingredients:

1 cup nonfat vanilla Greek yogurt
1 can (15 oz.) Del Monte(r) Lite Yellow Cling Sliced Peaches, undrained
1 small ripe banana
1 tsp. vanilla extract

Directions:

Combine all ingredients in a blender. Secure with lid and puree until smooth.

Variation: To make Pear Pomegranate Smoothies, substitute 1

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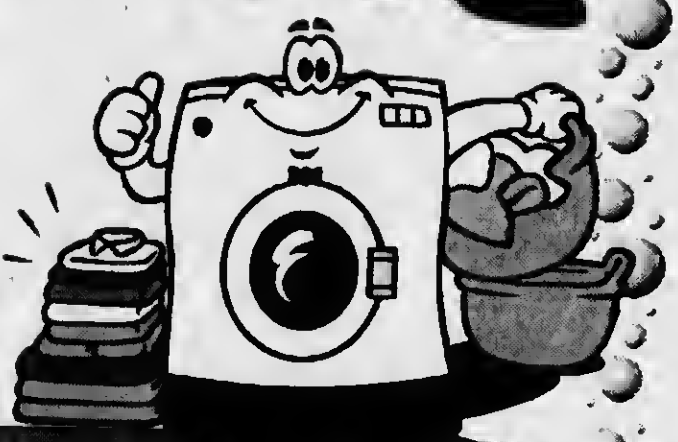

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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 40 | Number 9 | November 5, 2013

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

Evergreen Park approves Public Works Union contract

by Matt Mayer

Officials at the brief Oct 21 Evergreen Park Board of Trustees meeting approved a union contract with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 700 effective May 1. 2013 to April 30. 2016 for the Department of Public works as well as an ordinance vacating a portion of St. Louis Avenue and an alley south of 95th street and east of St. Louis Avenue.

A resolution authorizing the execution and submittal of the sub recipient agreement for the 2013 Community Block Grant Program year agreement with Cook County for project no. 1308-009 was approved as well as the membership duties for the National League of Cities. A request from Police Chief Mike Saunders for Kevin McCarthy to participate in the Evergreen Park Police Department's College student internship program was also approved.

A groundbreaking event took place on Oct 31 at the site of the new Mariano's Fresh Market. A textile-recycling event will be held on Saturday, Nov. 16 at Yukich Field at the northwest corner concession stand. Plastic bags full of clothing, sheets, bedspreads, blankets, curtains, drapes, towels, washcloths, etc. are welcome. Residents are encouraged to put leaves in the green compost containers, which will be picked up weekly until early December. Excess leaves can be raked to the curb to be picked up by the street department. Information regarding these and other events may be obtained by visiting the Village website at http://www.evergreenpark-il.com/.

New businesses take root in Hickory Hills

by Jan Glaz

New businesses not only contribute to the economic welfare of a city but also to the well-being of the people they serve. On October 23rd at the City of Hickory Hills Council Meeting Alderman Brian Waight announced 4 new businesses. One address is shifting out of neutral. "Wow that's been a long time"..."I've been here for 20 years and haven't seen anybody in there, ever". These are the comments made after Alderman Waight introduced the business address for "87th Street Fish & Chicken" as located at 8033 W. 87th Street, owner Mohammed Suleiman. Occupation at that local after years of vacancy is a positive sign. The 87th Street Fish & Chicken restaurant will be serving up a delicious variety of fast food items, along with great fish and chicken. Waight named two businesses that will be opening, both at 7767 W. 95th Street, Titles for Cars, Inc., the corporation processes titles for cars and local towing companies, the owner operator is Edward Forsythe; and Washington Inventory Service; a company business for most local grocery stores. The fourth, Kevron Printing & Mailing, proprietor Kevin Domenick, plans a November 15th opening at 9831 S. 78th Avenue, phone (708) 229-7725. Kevron handles all types of printing and mailings, including commercial endeavors: graphic design jobs; and promotional work.

Newsworthy endnotes: The council agreed that AC Pavement Striping Company will receive $50, 244.55 for a micro surfacing project and Insituform Technologies will receive an amount due of $14,979.20 for sewer lining work done on the Block Grant Project. Clerk D'Lorah Catizone made a request and the council agreed to allow St. Patricia to erect signs on various corners for their Annual Craft and Vendor Show, 9000 S. 86th Avenue – Hickory Hills, Illinois, on Sunday November 24, 2013 from 7 am to 1 pm. Alderman Tom McAvoy informed all that the Hickory Hills newsletter will now be posted on the City's website.

Justice moves step closer to turning off water

by Jan Glaz

With the passage of 'A Resolution Authorizing the Execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Village of Justice and the Justice-Willow Springs Water Commission' on October 28th at the Justice Board of Trustees Meeting, authority was given that makes action possible for the shut off of water service for seriously delinquent customers. Prior to voting on the Resolution a Board of Trustees discussion arose in regards to giving the Village Clerk authority. Trustee Melanie Kuban believed the entire authority would be split between several individuals and the board itself. Joe Cainkar, Attorney of the firm of Louis F. Cainkar Ltd. clarified that the authorization allows the Village Clerk, Kathleen Svoboda, to execute and sign documents sent to the Water Commission to ask for shut off once the board has approved, however, the Village Clerk cannot negotiate. The reason the Clerk was authorized stems from Mayor Kris Wasowicz presence on the board of the Willow Springs Water Commission. To avoid a conflict of interest, the Mayor preferred not to have that authority. "If you would like some other signature, we can accommodate that but... I think this is excellent." said Cainkar.

Trustee Ed Rusch Jr. moved to ratify a bill that was added for payment after the agenda was published for the October 14th, 2013 Regular Board of Trustees Meeting. The approved payment is in the amount of $8,600.00 for the tank removal project at 86th and Archer to Marlin Environmental from Brownfield Grant funds, authorized for such a purpose. The amount represents payment in full to Marlin Environmental after the Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) fund monies were applied.

The Board of Trustee voted unanimously to deny the business application of Gaia Movement, Recycling bins, on the basis of an incomplete application; location of bins; and prior experience with the applicant. Trustee Henry Oszakiewski brought forth two motions for business applications that met with board approval: Justice Jewelry and Coin, Inc. doing business at 8015 W. 79th Street; and Ameriglide of Justice at 8646 S. Roberts Road Suite 102.

OL Trustee Tim Desmond proposes to eliminate health insurance for board members

by Matt Mayer

Trustee Tim Desmond at the Oct. 22 Oak Lawn Board of Trustees proposed to eliminate health insurance for board members, calling it a "shared sacrifice". Desmond joined the village health insurance plan after winning election in April. Mayor Sandra Bury is currently receiving full or partial health benefits. Bury said she is not taking her salary as liquor commissioner, which is comparable to her insurance cost. "I think he sees the hypocrisy- referring to Desmond - as I did", said Bury. Desmond also asked for this to be placed on the next agenda.

Trustee Alex Olejniczak said he doesn't intend on participating in the village health insurance plan in the next fiscal year. A flyer titled the "Oak Lawn News" was received by a number of residents the Monday prior to the meeting. The flyer stated that Bury along with Olejniczak and Desmond were covered by the village health insurance plan.

The meeting heated up when Desmond (D-1) thanked residents who attended a recent open house event. And then said, "We are going to be facing some tough decisions." He proposed that all part-time employees including board members, no longer accept pensions. Trustee Streit objected to the elimination of pensions.

Olejniczak brought up the topic of the Senior Center. Streit fervently insists that a new senior center could have been build at the former Beatty Lumber site if the board would have approved a partnership plan worked out by former Mayor Dave Heilmann and his administration and Advocated Christ Medical Center. Olejniczak said that the previous administration worked out a deal to sell buildings at 5300 W. 95th Street to Beverly Bank for the construction of the Oak Lawn Bank and Trust. The building incorporated the Senior Center and the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce.

Olejniczak also said that while the Heilmann administration worked out the details for the bank, no set plans were made for the location of the Senior Center. "The problem we have now is where a new Senior Center will be located. There is misguided information out there", said Olejniczak. Talks continue about moving the Senior Center to a bathhouse at the former Memorial Pool site, which then would be under the operation of the Park District rather than the Village. The Senior Center is now located at the former McGugan School, 5220 W. 105th Street.

Village View

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 21 | November 5, 2013

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Tinley Park School District stymies Wal-Mart incentive

by Jan Glaz

Residents lined up in an open forum at the Tinley Park Board of Trustees Meeting on October 15th in response to the proposed building of a Wal-Mart at 191st and Harlem. Six hundred residents had signed a petition against building a Wal-Mart in their town and the $4.4 million tax incentive requested by Wal-Mart officials. One resident reported that a recent vote taken by the school board at Summit Hill School District 161 unanimously rejected handing over their tax dollars as part of the deal with Wal-Mart to develop the property owned by Lincoln-Way Community High School District 210. Other citizen comments against opening a $50 million dollar Wal-Mart included: Abatement at the cost of education: the loss of small businesses; increased crime due to statistics stating that Wal-Mart attracts a higher rate of criminal activity; negative traffic increase and the problem of attracting hoards of rats due to the retention pond and the size of Wal-Mart dumpsters. Mayor Edward Zabrocki thanked all those who addressed the board and suggested that as a group they choose a representative and set up a committee meeting with Tinley Park to answer their questions. "Quite frankly there's a lot of misinformation out there." said the Mayor.

Newsworthy approvals: The Village intends to lease portions of the 84th Avenue right of way south of Nielsen Drive to the Tinley Park Park District for a proposed Dog Park and the implementation of a multipurpose pathway system. The lease in consideration is an "as is lease" with a term of 50 years with a renewal option up to 55 years. An ordinance amending an ordinance concerning a jurisdictional transfer of the portion from Cook County to the Village of Tinley Park met with full board approval. The area consists of a stretch of roadway that remained after the completion of the 183rd Street widening project in 2011. The Cook County Department of Highways asked that the Village revise the previously adopted ordinance for clarification purposes.

A Resolution received a positive vote amending the designate person or persons to have access to certain safety deposit boxes at First Midwest Bank. Trustee Leoni reported that the Village maintains six safety deposit boxes: four are used by the Police Department and two are used by the Clerk's Office. Designees for access to the Police Department boxes are the Village Clerk and Police Department Records Supervisor. In August of 2013 Elizabeth Calomino was appointed to the position of Police Department Records Supervisor and this Resolution updates the designee to access the Police Department safety deposit boxes.

Oak Forest engages Wide Open West phone service

by Jan Glaz

After investigating and taking bids with other phone service providers: Call One: AT&T; WOW! Business: and Comcast, Tom Rieman, Oak Forest Information Technology Director, recommended the City of Oak Forest enter into a 3 year agreement with Wide Open West (WOW! Business) for the municipality's phone service. At the end of Octoher 2013 the city's phone service provider Call One's contract was set to expire and on October 21st at the Oak Forest City Council Meeting the council unanimously approved the WOW agreement. City Administrator Troy Ishler commented that Call One for some inexplicit reason had increased their rate to the extent that by engaging WOW! Business the City will save $120,000.00. WOW! Business can provide the same services for $18,000 annually. The agreement will also include an internet hot spot for the Metra station at no additional cost. "Call One gave no explanation for the rise in cost," said Ishler.

Before the meeting adjourned Mayor Henry Kuspa requested the council's approval of three requests, two in regard to the Emergency Management Agency (EMA) volunteers. EMA volunteers are dedicated to help protect the health, safety and welfare of those that live and work in Oak Forest and although they are unpaid, the City pays for their training. City Administrator Troy Ishler said, "They are absolutely an essential service." Alderman Hortsman and Sinon agreed on the importance of EMA volunteers as they are trained to step in at all hours of the day and night to aid in activities and in emergency's which include directing traffic; power failures; blocked streets; events; and they also maintain and operate various equipment. Volunteers are involved in the mutual response group and are often called out to aid other communities. The city council voted positive to appoint Dawn Lilley a resident of Palos Heights and Richard Schnert, resident of Midlothian. The council also accepted Mayor Kuspa's recommendation of the appointment of Mark Judge to the Crime Prevention Commission. Mark and his family live in Oak Forest where he owns and operates Judge Automotive and Towing, Inc., he and his family are very active in civic affairs.

Orland pedestrian bridge suffers years of deterioration

by Jan Glaz

A Structural analysis of the pedestrian walkway bridge between the Franklin Loebe Center and the Village Hall/ Civic Center was performed by Robert Juris & Associates Architects, Ltd. Upon completion of their field inspections, it was concluded that the 2 1/2" concrete topping must be replaced as it has deteriorated over the years, however the bridge is structurally sound. The work needed for the repair include partial demolition and full repair. Five bids were received on October 1, 2013. The lowest cost qualified hidder was Kovilic Construction Company, Inc, at a cost of $33,250.00. This project was budgeted for in the Building Maintenance account at $35,000. On October 21st at the Village of Orland Park Board of Trustees Meeting a contract with Kovilic Construction Company, Inc. to repair the Village Complex Pedestrian Bridge in an amount not to exceed $33,250.00. met with approval. Orland officials also approved a budget adjustment due to an emergeney repair. An HVAC compressor at the Sportsplex failed and needed to he repaired immediately, in order to maintain temperature quality. The unit was not budgeted to be replaced and it required a budget adjustment be made to cover the cost of repairs. The unit was repaired by Building Maintenance personnel and Thermosystems Parts Division provided the required parts at a cost of $8,232.23 w/core exchange credit of $775; bringing the total cost to $7,457.23.

The Horton Group completed a market analysis on behalf of the Village of Orland Park for the 01/01/2014 renewal of its employee benefit programs. The FY2013 budget includes $6,038,606 in the Insurance Fund and $49,500 in the General Fund (EAP/Crisis Response) to cover the expenses associated with the Village's employee insurance program. On October 21st the board agreed to enter into agreements with the recommended carriers/ vendors and associated expenses, effective January 1, 2014, and to retain at the recommended rate the Horton Group's services for Fiscal Year 2014.

Newsworthy endnotes: The Orland Park Lions Club was granted a raffle license to conduct a raffle at their Special Olympics Charity Bowling event on Saturday, November 23, 2013 at the Orland Bowl. All profits will go to the Special Olympics. President McLaughlin appointed Jeffrey Smith to the Zoning Board of Appeals and Brian Begley to the Recreation Advisory Board.

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SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 14 | Number 21 | November 5, 2013

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Village of Worth Haunts Against Hunger

The Village of Worth hosted their annual Haunts Against Hunger Event on Sunday night. The event was sponsored by the Worth Police and benefited the Worth Food Pantry. Participants each brought bags of canned food to donate to the pantry. Over 250 people attended the event. Participants were led by the "Grim Reaper" and a parade of Hearses around the Village before returning to the United Methodist Church in Worth.

For more information on participants, please call Trustee Colleen McElroy at 708-448-1181 or email at Cmcelroy@villageofworth.com

Palos Park plans 2014 Autumn in the Park

by Matt Mayer

A request to purchase a Avelin AVRAV100 Unit (Magic Box) from AVI SPL for $3463.75 for the purpose of promoting meetings, events, public announcements and news which is all composed on a PC was approved as well as a contract with Big Tent Events for power and other rental supplies for the 2014 Autumn in the Park Festival for $10,311.50. A contract with Maggie Speaks to provide the headliner musical entertainment on Friday Sept. 19, 2014 as well as a contract with Infinity to provide the headliner musical entertainment on Saturday, Sept. 20, 2014 for $3,800.00 was also approved.

An ordinance declaring certain personal property owned by the village as surplus and authorizing the donations of the surplus was approved. The ordinances states that the village has equipment which is no longer necessary or useful and that the best interest of the village would be to donate it to Assistive Technology Exchange Network of Tinley Park was approved. A contract with Beary Landscaping of Lockport for $4,030.00 for the maintenance and care of exterior landscaping areas at the Metra Station and the Triangle at Southwest Highway and 80th Avenue from April 1, 2014 to Nov 30, 2014 was approved along with an additional contract with Berry Landscaping of Lockport for $455.00 for maintenance and care of exterior landscaping at the pumping station at Southwest Highway und 121st Street from April 1, 2014 to Nov. 30, 2014.

Moraine Valley receiving Walmart Brighter Future grant

Moraine Valley Community College is one of 12 community colleges in the country selected to participate in the Walmart Brighter Futures 2.0 Project, which is supported by a $3.5 million grant from the Walmart Foundation to the League for Innovation in the Community College.

The project aims to provide low-income adults and older youth the skills necessary to obtain middle-skill jobs, enabling them to become financially self-sufficient. In addition, the project is modeled to provide participants with the confidence they need to know they've acquired the skills employers want, which will empower them to document those skills and communicate them effectively to employers.

Over the next two-and-a-half years, the League will work with a select group of 12 community colleges across the U.S. to help these institutions develop programs and services to move low-income, low-skill individuals into middle-skill jobs. The League will disseminate the best practices from the project to other community colleges throughout the country.

In addition to Moraine Valley, other community colleges funded were Anne Arundel Community College (MD); Central Piedmont Community College (NC); Cuyahoga Community College (OH); Delta College (MI); El Centro College, the Dallas County Community College District (TX); Kirkwood Community College (IA); Maricopa Community Colleges (AZ); Miami Dade College (FL); Santa Fe College (FL); Seattle Community Colleges (WA); and Sinclair Community College (OH).

In announcing the grants, League President and CEO Dr. Gerardo E. de los Santos expressed confidence the Walmart Brighter Futures Project will have a profound and positive impact beyond the 12 colleges. "As with an earlier project funded by the Walmart Foundation, Brighter Futures 2.0 will lead to best practices that will expand the capacity of community colleges to enhance middle-skill job training opportunities. The League will be delighted to share the work of the 12 colleges with colleges around the country," said de los Santos.

Through the project, each selected community college will receive up to $233,333 to provide training und services that will qualify the targeted individuals for middle-skill positions in the workforce. The training will focus on jobs requiring 21st century skills in an effort to provide a promising career future. In addition to specific job training, individuals will receive career counseling and job acquisition skills such as job search, résumé writing and interviewing techniques.

"We are excited to be selected to participate in this project," said Dr. Sylvia Jenkins, Moraine Valley president. "We appreciate the generosity of the Walmart Foundation and the leadership of the League for Innovation in making this work possible. We look forward to working with our national partners and our local business and community partners to help make a difference across the country by helping low-income individuals prepare for middle-skill jobs. This effort underscores part of our mission to improve the condition of working families in our communities through the power of education and training."

"The Walmart Foundation supports programs that provide people with ways to improve their lives through skills training, job readiness, job placement and support services," says Julie Gehrki, senior director of the Walmart Foundation. "We are proud to continue our work with the League for Innovation and expect to help 9,000 workers gain the skills they need for today's job market through this continued effort."

Worth to transfer Worth Days to the Park District

by Matt Mayer

Officials at the Oct. Worth Board of Trustees meeting decided that the park district would be best suited to sponsor the Annual Worth Days Event. Mayor Mary Werner said she would contact the Park District Director Carlo Capalbo and let him know that that's the direction the village wants to go. "I met with Capalbo about a month ago and the Park District is open to taking over Worth Days", she added.

Other highlights: Werner made the following appointments to the Economic Development Committee: Matt Urban with a term to expire May, 2016; Donald Dambek with a term to expire May, 2014; John Staunton and Audrey Dambek with a term to expire May, 2015; and Cindy Beverly and Terry Beverly with a term to expire May, 2016. Werner also presented an award to Police Sergeant Balsamo thanking him for 25 years of dedicated service to the village.

A motion to authorize the village attorney to prepare an ordinance adopting the Cook County vacancy building ordinance was approved.

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B-MAC EDITION

Volume 7 | Number 21 | November 5, 2013

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Property demolition moves forward in Midlothian

by Jan Glaz

Village of Midlothian Trustee, Don Killelea, reported on information from a recent meeting with the South Suburban Land Bank at the Village Board Meeting held on October 23rd. The Land Bank was made possible by a HUD Sustainable Communities Grant awarded to the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association of which Midlothian is a member. The Land Bank is in the process of acquiring properties and waiting for money from the Attorney General. The Land Bank aids in facilitating the redevelopment of acquired properties through partnerships with developers, community organizations, lenders, and local governments to enhance economic activity. Killelea related that in regards to the demolition of certain properties money has been processed from Cook County for the project. Killelea also updated information in regards to the South Suburban Housing Collaborative which is an organization formed by communities for addressing housing needs and how to use funds coming from the federal economic stimulus package. Killelea said the organization had a workshop on vacant property ordinances, he also related that the Illinois Housing Development Agency is offering a grant of $75,000 around the beginning of November for towns to complete demolitions. It is imperative that Midlothian comply with obtaining the properties and securing a court order for any demolitions to occur, said Killelea.

Midlothian residents speak out to elected officials: A citizen questioned Mayor Sharon Rybak about the lack of new information on the Village Website and the fact that some pages were completely blank. Rybak responded that she was aware of the problem and said residents will soon notice that the website no longer states that it is under construction; a resident complained about suspicious activity in apartment complexes and various houses as people are moving in and out without moving trucks. The Mayor agreed to investigate; a young woman voiced concern about a proposed quarry to be built on a stretch from 135th Street north to the Calumet Sag Channel and from Pulaski Road east to Francisco and the effects it would have on Midlothian; she feared a dangerous increase in pollution and traffic; the Midlothian Metra Station came under scrutiny when a resident complained that it was consistently in dire need of cleaning, among her grievances, soda and coffee spills left for days and cobwebs in windows. She was promised the Village would improve its maintenance duties; a resident requested a stop sign at a cross street, 148th & Karlov, due to speeders and the fact that two cars this year had been totaled at the spot. "It's the only major cross street that does not have one," he said. Mayor Rybak thanked him for his information.

Crestwood residents subject to fence removal

by Jan Glaz

Applying for a permit is important because what a home owner determines is a fine project may not be allowed by ordinance, codes and specifications. On October 17th an extremely disgruntled Crestwood resident pleaded her case to Mayor Lou Presta at the Village of Crestwood Board of Trustees meeting. The homeowner reported a phone call was received from Village Service Director Bill Graffeo informing them that there had been a complaint and that their fence had to be taken down: A second call informed them that they we're in violation of an Ordinance. Mayor Presta asked. "Did you have a permit?" The citizen replied she thought her husband took care of it. she also believed it would be a matter of just paying the fine for not having a permit but they did not expect the expense of removing the fence. She said they were told that if they did not take the fence down the village would do it and lawyers could be involved. Presta informed her that had they applied for a permit the fence would not have been allowed, due to the ordinance. "You are in violation and as of right now it has come down."

Upon the request of Jeff Rodgers: Great Lakes Equipment Sales, Inc. the Board of Trustees granted a request for a Special Use Permit for a heavy equipment sales office on the property located at 4818 W. 137th Street with the stipulation of no parking of heavy equipment on the premises. The Board of Trustees also approved and passed a Special Use Ordinance for EZ Motors Sales, Inc. located at 4400 W. 135th Street to permit the operation of a used car and truck sales facility with the stipulation of no body work or repair work on the premises.

Endnotes: The board appointed Robert Windberg as an Emergency Medical Assistant (EMA). For the position of Probationary Firefighters, Richard Malinoski, Homewood IL; David Laird, Frankfort IL; Steven McNellis, New Lenox, IL. All appointed are Certified Firefighters/Paramedies. A reminder, in the month of October the Village of Crestwood set up two recycling containers to assist residents in their commitment to reduce waste and go green. The containers are located at the Crestwood Recreation Center: 5331 135th St. and the Crestwood Civic Center: 14025 Kostner Avenue.

Alsip employs budgeted money for Cemetery

by Jan Glaz

An unfinished project along the cemetery on Laramie between 115th and 119th Street is now up and running due to the efforts of the Alsip Beautification Committee and budgeted money: A donation was also received from the owner of the cemetery. Trustee Lynn Dwyer announced at the Village of Alsip Board Meeting October 21st that she had been put in charge of the Beautification Committee by Mayor Patrick Kitching. She reported that years ago bushes had been planted along the cemetery hut many died due to the ground being below grade: these bushes have now been taken out and replaced with grasses and bushes that thrive in watery conditions and scare crows and corn stalks were purchased to decorate the completed project. Dwyer thanked all those who donated their time including Allyson Kitching, the Public Works Department and Bob Bauer and his men. Input from residents as to where they would like to see the next beautification project take place is welcome as are volunteers to help on the committee. "If you are interested or if you know of anyone that would like to help, please contact me anytime." said Dwyer.

Many items received a positive vote before the meeting adjourned. Newsworthy: A motion carried approving a proposal from Business Districts, Inc. to assist the Village in recruiting, retaining and providing the early training for an Economic Development Coordinator who will oversee the entire implementation process of the Pulaski Road Redevelopment Program under the direction of the Mayor and the Board of Trustees; Mayor Kitching requested an appointment to replace Dan Godfrey who resigned and Fernando "Frank" Flores was accepted to the Police Pension Board: retirement brought forth a motion requested from Village Clerk Deborah Venhuizen for the Clerk's Office to post and advertise, in accordance with union requirements, for a full time Deputy Collector position to replace the current Deputy Collector retiring in November; the Clerk's Office will also post and advertise in accordance with union requirements for new position, a part time Deputy Collector, this position was approved and budgeted for in the 2013-14 budget; a contract was awarded to Knickerbocker Roofing for a cost of $1,174,850.00 for the roof project at Heritage I properties and will be paid for by bonds taken out of the project as will the amount of $53,953.00 for concrete work at Heritage II. The board waived bidding and contracted with Frazier Concrete for the concrete work.

Call 708-425-1910 for advertising details

Social Security: Who is reaping the benefits?

by Kelly White

Social Security can provide you, your spouse and other eligible members of your family with benefits when you retire, if you become disabled and when you die. However, these benefits are not entirely designated to United States citizens only.

Green cards give citizens of other countries the right to work and live in the United States. These permanent residents like U.S. citizens, have FICA, Federal Insurance Contributions Act, payments for Social Security withheld from their paychecks. FICA taxes and wages build eligibility for Social Security benefits through the accumulation of 40 credits at the rate of four credits per year, or one credit per $1,160 in earnings as of 2013. Eligible green card holders can get their Social Security benefits when they live abroad; however, where they reside and how long they remain outside of the U.S. can have consequences.

Currently, these countries have a social security agreement with the United States: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

According to the U.S. Social Security Office, this list of countries is subject to change. However, the U.S. Social Security agreements with Austria, Belgium, Germany, Sweden and Switzerland allow you to get benefits as a dependent or survivor of a worker while residing in the foreign country. This is true only if the worker is, or was at the time of death, a U.S. citizen or a citizen of your country of residence; or you are a citizen of one of the countries listed and the worker on whose record your benefits are based lived in the United States for at least ten years or earned at least 40 credits under the U.S. Social Security system.

You earn Social Security credits when you work and pay Social Security taxes, and credits are based on earnings. For example, you receive one credit for every quarter you earn at least $1,160 in 2013. Usually the amount you must earn to get credits goes up slightly each year as average earnings levels raise. For the amount of earnings you needed to get a credit in prior years, see Quarter of Coverage. You can earn up to four credits a year. Generally, you need 40 credits, or ten years, to be eligible for Social Security retirement benefits.

If you receive benefits as a dependent or survivor of a worker, special requirements may affect your right to get Social Security payments while you are outside the United States. If you are not a U.S. citizen, you must have lived in the United States for at least five years. During those five years, the family relationship with the worker must have continued to exist.

Although a green card holder may collect his Social Security benefits while living abroad, he needs to be cognizant of the amount of time he spends there. Green card holders who plan to live outside of the U.S. for more than one year must obtain a returning resident visa or reentry permit prior to leaving or they risk losing their permanent residency status, according to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service. Those who get a reentry permit, but stay abroad more than two years after it was issued, also may have their green card revoked, as may resident aliens who relocate to another country. When a green card holder elects to live in a country which has no tax treaty with the U.S. he should be prepared for his benefit payments to cease after six months.

Children may meet this residency requirement on their own or may be considered to have met it if the worker and other parent, if any, meet it. However, the U.S. Social Security Administration will not pay children who were adopted outside the United States while they reside outside the United States, even if the child has met the residency requirement.

Both the Social Security Administration and the U.S. Department of the Treasury forbid sending benefit payments to U.S. citizens and green card holders living in certain countries. The SSA bans payments to Vietnam, Cambodia and former Soviet Union nations except Armenia, Russia, Lithuania, Estonia and Latvia, while the Treasury bans payments to North Korea and Cuba. The SSA holds payments for U.S. citizens until they return home or go to an unrestricted country. Green card holders do not have this option; they lose their benefits for the months they reside in a banned country.

Justice prepares for senior snow plowing

by Jan Glaz

It's time to prepare for snow and on October 14th at the Village of Justice Board of Trustees Meeting Trustee Rick Symonds announced that the Board of Trustees will review a "Hold Harmless Agreement" in regards to the senior citizens snowplowing program. The program is offered free to senior citizens 62 years of age or over without able bodied people residing in their home. Symonds mentioned one area in particular saying that in the past, along driveways, there had been some damage to flower beds or landscaping. The Village "Hold Harmless Agreement" would reflect on this issue to assure that the Village is not held responsible, as it is not possible to avoid various landscaping close to the driveway. At the time of signing the "Hold Harmless Agreement" seniors are welcome to ask questions.

Trustee Sue Small revealed money saving news when the board voted to approve the quote from Intelligent Sulutions (ISI) in the amount uf $9,267.00 tu purchase and install servers and software as an upgrade, and to facilitate communicatiuns between the Finance Offiee and the Building/Public Works departments, inclusive of a three year warranty on the equipment. "We have a total of $10,221.00 left in the bndget to spend," said Trustee Small. Sue gave special thanks to Trustee Ed Rusch Jr. for his efforts in keeping the finances in line. The yearlong computer renovation is in its final phase. Trustee Small also alerted those present that on Saturday, November 9th a Veteran's Luncheon honoring Justice Veterans will be held at the William O. Lipinski Community Center and requested that anyone who is a veterin to please make sure they are listed on the Veteran's page on the Village website to insure they receive an invitation. If an invitation is not received or a veteran is not on the list, please call the Village at 708-458-2520 and the veteran's information will be forwarded.

Before the meeting adjourned Trustee Hank Oszakiewski offered motions that met with approval. Oszakiewski explained that because of businesses within certain demographie areas and because of the cemetery and the limited opportunity there for retail improvement the Village of Justice will develop and commit to a long term economic plan; recruit businesses and support existing business for economic growth. In regard to this concept a motion passed approving an Ordinance Amending the Justice Municipal Code by Changing the Name of Zoning and Planning Board to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Motions also carried for two new businesses, the Home Occupation of BIZ Assist, a computer business doing business at 7230 Bradford Court and the Business Lieense of Cherished Pets Remembered, doing business at 7861 S. 88th Avenue.

Waste Management addresses residents' complaints

by Kelly White

Hmneuwners with alleyways have had one thing in common lately in Hickory Hills, yard waste. According to Hickory's Mayor Mike Howley, Waste Management has been neglecting to continually pick up yard waste in alleyways, particularly between Roberts Road and 80th Court, for the past couple of months.

Residents came forth at Hickory Hills City Council Meetings with both questions and concerns for the council. "The truck simply refuses to go down alleyways within the city to pick up yard waste," Mike Mitchell of 8227 W. 93rd St., behind the Dirty Sock, explained. A resident of Hickory Hills for over 23 years, Mitchell claims since the May 2013 contract was signed with Waste Management, this late summer and early fall is the first time he is witnessing this problem. Mitchell reported his house was skipped for yard waste removal seven times already.

"I could understand them missing it once in a while, say for example if there was a new driver on the route, but this has happened to me alone seven times." Mitchell displayed photos of yard waste in his alleyway previously ignored by Waste Management.

Mitchell's home is not the only home neglected by Waste Management, the first week of October, the Waste Management trucks failed to pick up yard waste at the Parkview Apartments, 8837 West Parkview Lane. Mitchell also noted surrounding neighbors' homes with alleyways were also being ignored during yard waste removal.

Alderman Mike McHugh recognized the alleyways often being ignored during waste pickup for yard waste. "For some reason, those trucks just do not like going down those alleys," he said.

The drivers on the routes have not changed, nor have the routes been changed. Alleyway pickups are simply being missed or forgotten by the drivers.

Howley stated there is no problem with Mitchell, or any resident living with an alleyway behind their home, to have their yard waste picked up from the alleyway, along with their regular waste removal.

Barney McHugh, Director of Operations at Waste Management, addressed the Hickory Hills City Council at the Thursday, Oct. 10th meeting stating he is aware of the problem going on in the city over the past couple of months. "There is a problem with our trucks missing the alleys; however, as soon as I know there is a problem, believe me, I start working on it to get it resolved immediately," he assured the community.

Mitchell reported the alleyways are not missed every time during yard waste removal; however, they are missed enough times to where it brought him before the City Cuuncil.

Howley noted McHugh has addressed resident complaints very quickly in the past and he is positive this issue will be resolved directly and efficiently. Since McHugh has acknowledged the issue, there have been no further resident complaints.

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We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

Businesses can prohibit firearms

by Kelly White

Illinois business owners have an advantage in the new Concealed Carry Law; they can decide whether or not to prohibit concealed firearms within their place of business.

This October, the Illinois State Police revealed the image as the official "no guns allowed" signage that must be displayed at every public entrance accessible in these buildings to inform the general public concealed firearms are prohibited within the facility. The signage is required to display a 4" x 6" image approved by Illinois legislation.

"The signs are very important," Hickory Hills Police, Chief Alan Vodicka, stressed. "There are a few different signs to choose from prohibiting firearms, but regardless, whichever is chosen, it needs to be posted at every entrance on a building prohibiting firearms."

The signage shows a gun with a red circle and a line drawn through the center. Other signs also include wording with phrases such as; possession of any firearms is strictly prohibited, concealed firearms are prohibited on this facility and all weapons including concealed firearms are prohibited on these premises.

There are also places within the state which will automatically prohibit any concealed firearms. "These places only apply to the patrons visiting them," Vodicka stated. "This does not apply to the owner of a property, and again, police officers are except from this." Prohibited locations include: schools/child care facilities, colleges/universities, courthouses, libraries, government buildings, public playgrounds, public parks, public transportation, public gatherings, parades, museums, stadiums, zoos and bars and restaurants that have over 50% of total sales from alcohol, with the notion that Illinois State Police feel "bullets and booze don't mix".

Any non-residential building or business may prohibit firearms by choice but must also have signage at every accessible entrance in order for it to be enforced. "Current police officers are except from the Concealed Carry Law and are allowed in prohibited buildings with their concealed firearm, as they always have been," Vodicka added.

There will be a parking lot exemption for Concealed Carry License owners. Upon parking in a lot of one of the prohibited buildings, or a business that chooses to prohibit concealed firearms, he or she must unload his or her firearm inside of their vehicle, then exit the vehicle and place the unloaded firearm in the trunk of his or her car. Upon exiting the prohibited building, or place of business, he or she may remove the unloaded firearm from the trunk and bring it back inside of his or her vehicle and reload the firearm. Loading and reloading the firearm may not be done out in the view of the public. Anyone who presents his or her firearm out in the view of the public is subject to arrest.

A concealed firearm is described as a handgun. A handgun means any device which is designed to expel a projectile or projectiles by the action of an explosion, expansion of gas or escape of gas that is designed to be held and fired by the use of a single hand. A handgun does not include: a stun gun or taser, a machine gun, a short-barreled rifle or shotgun, any pneumatic gun, a spring gun or a paintball gun.

Anyone obtaining a Concealed Carry License will not be able to carry their firearms openly. A handgun carried on a person must be concealed from view of the public. If the firearm is not concealed, that individual is subject to arrest.

Signage will begin being posted throughout the state of Illinois after the first of the year.

Jazzercise moves to new location in Oak Lawn

Jazzercise dance-fitness classes has open up in Oak Lawn area. Jazzercise instructor Cindy Lunz has moved the location to First United Methodist Church, 10000 S. Central Avenue. The classes will take place at 9:15 a.m. on Monday , Wednesday and Fridays.

"I'm excited about the growth of Jazzercise locally," said Lunz. In addition to this location, there are also classes in Mt. Greenwood at the Cbicago High School for Agricultural Seiences, 3857 W. 111th Street, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, at 7:15 p.m. and Saturday morning at 8:30 a.m. There are also classes at Chicago Ridge Mall on Tuesday and Thursday at 8:30 a.m. "Jazzercise offers a unique blend of fitness and jazz dance that local area residents have discovered is a lot of fun. The classes will just make it easier for participants to enjoy a workout where and when it's convenient for them."

The 60-minute Jazzercise class includes a warm-up, high-energy aerobic routines, muscle-toning and cool-down stretch segment. Jazzercise combines elements of dance, resistance training, Pilates, yoga, kick-boxing and more to create programs for people of every age and fitness level. Alternative formats include Jazzercise Lite, Jazzercise Personal Touch and Junior Jazzercise.

Benefits include increased cardiovascular endurance, strength, and flexibility, as well as an overall "feel good" factor. For more information on Jazzercise contact Lunz at 773-238-7716. For worldwide class information, go to jazzercise.com or call (800) FIT-IS-IT.

Register for the Beverly Hills Turkey Trot

The 5th Annual Beverly Hills Turkey Trot 5K Run & Family Walk will be held on Saturday, November 30, 2013. Proceeds from this event will benefit the John McNicholas Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation and 19th Ward Youth Foundation. The Turkey Trot has become a a great way to burn off the Thanksgiving calories and a favorite neighborhood event for families. Take advantage of early registration discounts now at http://www.19thwardmobile.com/. The Beverly Hills Turkey Trot is generously presented by the PrivateBank.

Veterans Day Mass at Saint Albert the Great Catholic School

The Junior High Classes of St. Albert the Great Catholic School will be celebrating a Veterans Day Mass on Monday, November 11, 2013 at 8:30 am.

Refreshments will be served in the school following the liturgy. We would be pleased and honored if you will join us.

Please feel free to share your stories, photos, mementos and memories with the students. Displays may be set up in the school library.

St. Albert the Great Church 5555 West State Road (80th & Central Ave.) Burbank, IL 60459

For additional information, call the school office at 708-424-7757.

God Bless our Veterans.

City of Oak Forest eBriefs

Christmas parade and trim-a-tree registration forms are due November 12.

Oak Forest families, schools, businesses, and community groups are invited to participate in the city's annual Christmas parade and trim-a-tree contest on December 14 at 11 a.m. at City Hall. Registration forms for the parade and/or trim-a-tree contest are due by Tuesday, November 12.

Question of the Week

Is the city organizing a Veterans Day ceremony?

In honor of Veterans Day (November 11), the Oak Forest Veterans Commission will review American flag etiquette at the City Council meeting on Tuesday, November 12 at 8 p.m. Visit the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to learn about the history of Veterans Day.

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Out and About

with Kelly White

Alsip

Free Blood pressure Screenings will take place at the Alsip Park District, 12521 S. Kostner Avenue, offered by Ingalls Health Systems on Wednesday, November 13th from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. For more information, please call 708-389-1003.

Blue Island

The 5th Annual Blue Island Veterans Day Parade includes floats, bands, classic cars and more on Saturday, November 9th. The parade will be traveling from Western to Union to Memorial Park.in Blue Island.

Girls' Night Out will be hosted at the Blue Island Historical Society, Albee House, 13018 S. Maple Avenue on Saturday, Novemher 9th from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Specially selected local vendors will bring their wares to sell.

Midlothian

November 14th at 7:00 p.m. professional appraiser Rex Newell of Rex's Antiques will discuss current trends in the antique markets at the Midlothian Public Library, 14701 S. Kenton Avenue. The first 40 registrants may have one hand-held item appraised: only one item per household. Midlothian Public Library residents have priority registration. Non- Residents may register beginning Thursday, November 7th. Limited seating is available. Please call 708-535-2027 to register or register online, beginning November 7th, on the calendar page at www.midlothianlibrary.org.

Oak Forest

Oak Forest families, schools, businesses, and community groups are invited to participate in the city's annual Christmas parade and trim-a-tree contest on December 14th at 11:00 a.m. at City Hall, 15440 Central Avenue. Registration forms for the parade and/or trim-a-tree contest are due by Tuesday, November 12th at City Hall.

Join a Winter Adult Volleyball League at the Oak Forest Park District, 15601 Central Avenue, with co-ed teams on Fridays and Sundays this winter and women only on Mondays. For more information, please call Kirstin at 708-687-7270 ext. 132.

Tinley Park

Turkey Trot 5K Run/ Walk, presented by Walt's Food Centers, will be taking place on November 10th at 8:00 a.m. at Vogt Woods, 6527 W. 171st. Awards will be given to males and females for first, second and third place runners in all age categories based on chip timing. An award will also be given to the best overall resident and non-resident male and female runner. Shirts will be awarded to the first 550 registered participants. For more information, please call 708-342-4200.

Tinley Fitness will host its Grand Opening on Saturday, November 16th from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at 8125 W. 171st Street.

Chicago Ridge

Zumba Abs Class will be taking place at Freedom Park Activity Center, 10400 Oxford Avenue, from November 4th through December 9th. Students will be required to bring their own mats for the floor exercises. For more information, please call 708-423-7753.

Worth

The Worth Park District, 11500 Beloit Avenue, will be hosting a Junior High School Mixer on Friday, November 15th from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m., $5/residents and $7/non-residents. For more information, please call 708-448-7080.

Bridgeview

Adults 55 and older are invited to mix, mingle and have fun the first Monday of each month for Senior Game Day at the Bridgeview Park District, 8100 South Beloit. The next free game day will take place on December 2nd with the theme of Holiday Magic. For more information, please call 708-594-1818.

Burbank

Reavis High School and CRAST present HAIRSPRAY The Broadway Musical on November 7th, 8th and 9th at 6034 W. 77th Street. Admission: $8.00 - General, $6.00 - Students, Senior Citizens are free. For more information, please call 708-599-7200.

Justice

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church 7560 S. Archer Road, Justice will hold a Fall Greek Food Fest on Saturday, November 9th from 3:00 p.m until 10:00 p.m. featuring Greek delicacies-shish kabob and rice pilaf, sizzling gyros, tiropita, Grecian chicken, fresh Greek pastries, loukoumades and more. Free parking is available with no admission, eat-in or carry-out. For more information call the church office at 708-594-2040.

Are you over 55 years of age and are interested in being active? If so, you can register to join the Justice Park District's new Club Active. To join you must be at least 55 years of age and register by filling out a short application you can obtain by visiting the Justice Community Center on 7747 South Oak Grove, Avenue, or call 708-458-1370 for a mailed copy.

Oak Lawn

Bailey's Crossing Dog Park, 9910 S. Melvina, is offering a Memorial Brick Program. The bricks are 4" x 8" and can be purchased for $75. There is a limit of two (2) lines of 13 characters per line (including spaces) per brick. A form along with more information can be found online at www.olparks.com. For more information, please call Denise Iwinski at 708-857-2200.

Orland Park

Sportsplex Turkey Shoot will be taking place on Sunday, November 24th at 2:00 p.m. at Orland Park Sportsplex, 11351 W. 159th Street. One parent and one child per team and mini-basketballs and mini-hoops will be used for younger ages. Teams of two may register at the Recreation Registration Office, 14600 S. Ravinia Avenue. For more information, please call 708-403-7275.

Palos Hills

Veterans Day Ceremony will take place on Monday, November 11th at 6:00 p.m. at Town Square Veterans Memorial 8455 W. 103rd Street. This event is free and open to the public.

Palos Park

Easy One Bowl Holiday Baking is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, November 12th at the Palos Park Library, 12330 Forest Glen Blvd. Learn a few tricks and tips on holiday baking from Susan Powells' "Easy One Bowl Holiday Baking" program. Learn how to make quick, easy, homemade cookies using just three ingredients. Five varieties of sweets will be sampled, including Guilfoley's Irish fudge. Program size is limited. Register early by calling the library at 708-448-1530.

Local Concert Musician, Jason Niehoff, will be performing at the Palos Park Library, 12330 Forest Glen Blvd. on Saturday, November 23rd. For more information, please call the library at 708-448-1530.

Palos Heights

Waddles Winter Wonderland is scheduled to take place on Saturday, December 14th from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at the Palos Heights Parks and Recreation Department, 6601 W 127th Street. Everyone will get the chance to meet Santa himself as well as get a family picture with him. This event is free and all ages are welcome. For more information, please call 708-361-1807.

Swallow Cliff Chapter NSDAR November meeting

The Swallow Cliff Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution will meet at 1:00 PM on Saturday, November 16, 2013, at the Palos Heights Public Library, 12501 S. 71st Avenue, Palos Heights. The speaker will be Audra Gray, volunteer with the Wounded Warrior Project, who teaches scuba diving to veterans and their families. The NSDAR is a non-profit, non-political organization dedicated to preserving American history, securing America's future through better education, and promoting patriotism. Membership in the DAR is a unique opportunity to honor one's lineage and heritage as a descendant of a patriot of the American Revolution. Prospective members and guests from all south and southwest suburbs are welcome to attend. For further information, call 815-464-0509.

Energy Assistance is available

Cook County Commissioner Joan Patricia Murphy is hosting an Energy & Information Fair Thursday, November 14th 10am to 2p.m. at the Biela Center in Crestwood. Located at 4545 Midlothian Turnpike. Applications for LIHEAP (low income home energy assistance program) will be processed at the Energy Fair.

Federal funds are available to families that qualify. One time payments are made directly to Nicor and ComEd to provide financial support to households. The winter season is just around the corner and along with the cold comes higher energy bills. The application is fast and easy.

When applying you must bring: proof of gross income for the last 30 days. Original Social Security cards for all household members. Current Nicor and ComEd utility bills.

Income Guidelines for LIHEAP

Family Size	Gross Income for 30 days prior to application Date
1	$1,436
2	$1,939
3	$2,441
4	$2,944
5	$3,446
6	$3,949

Meet local representatives from Ceda, Nicor, and ComEd to discuss other payment options to avoid disconnection. Useful information will be provided from area Social Service Organizations. Come find out what programs are available to help meet the needs of your family.

Don't miss Commissioner Murphy's Energy Fair on Thursday, November 14th from 10a.m. to 2p.m. The event will be held at the BIELA Center located at 4545 Midlothian Turnpike in Crestwood.

LIHEAP Questions call CEDA at 1-800-571-2332

Event information call Commissioner Murphy's Office at 708-389.2125.

Oak Lawn Chamber New and Prospective Member Breakfast

The Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce will sponsor a New & Prospective Member Breakfast hosted by Jason's Deli on Wednesday, November 13th at 8:00 am. Now more than ever, local businesses need the support of one another. Please join us for an opportunity to network with current, new and prospective members as well as hear a brief overview of the benefits of becoming a Chamber member.

This event is free for prospective and 2013 new members. A $5 donation from current members is appreciated. Join us for a chance to win a $10 Jason's Deli gift card. Kindly RSVP to the Chamber office at (708) 424-8300 or email office@oaklawnchamber.com.

Learn more about the Chamber at www.oaklawnchamber.com

Magnificent Seventeen National Junior Honor Society Induction Ceremony

Seventeen eighth grade students were inducted into the Cardinal Joseph Bernardin Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society. Members have excelled in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, character, and citizenship. Father Jay Finno (pastor of St. Stephen Deacon and Martyr Parish, Tinley Park), Father William Corcoran (pastor of St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Orland Hills), and Ms. Mary Iannucilli (Principal of CJB) presided over the ceremony. The officers are: Megan Kulpinski of Tinley Park (President), Mitchell Thompson of Orland Park and Emma Urchell of Tinley Park (Co-Vice Presidents), Connor Lima of Tinley Park (Secretary), Keely Tess of Orland Park (Treasurer) and Ben Kenagy of Orland Park (Parliamentarian). As members of the NJHS, students will participate in projects that benefit the community, parishes, and school.

When asked what it meant to be part of NJHS, Megan Kulpinski (Tinley Park) President, said, "Being a member of NJHS means that I have the ability not only to help in my school but help others, too. The National Junior Honor Society is an amazing program here at CJB where I can become a leader and serve others." Ben Kenagy (Orland Park) Parliamentarian added "I feel honored to be a member and officer of NJHS and lead the school to make tomorrow brighter." Ms. Barb Kristin (Faculty Adviser) commented that "I am very proud of these students for their academic achievements and especially for all the service they provide to their parishes and the community."

The NJHS Program is overseen by Ms. Barb Kristin and the Faculty Council is Mrs. Janet Dubina, Mrs. Sharon O'Toole, Mrs. Marnie O'Neill, Mrs. Maria Niemiec and Mrs. Cynthia Burnett.

Cardinal Joseph Bernardin School is a Catholic elementary school located in Orland Hills, offering instruction in 3-year old Pre-Kindergarten through 8th grade. CJB is a nationally recognized Blue Ribbon School of Excellence and is included in "Chicago" magazine's list of Top Private Schools in the Chicago area. For more information about CJB, visit www.cjbschool.org.

Christmas Tree's, Fresh Wreaths, Santa Luncheons, Photo's with Santa, Nativity Scenes, Parades, New Year Eve Party's, Rock around the Clock for New Years Eve, 5K Runs, Turkey Trots, Christmas Lightening, Festivals, Craft Shows, call to advertise your events at 708-425-1910.

Presbyterian Church in Orland Park upcoming events

Annual Arts & Crafts Festival, Saturday, November 9, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Free Admission. Over 50 crafters, bake sale, raffles and luncheon available for purchase.

Veterans Recognition Program, Wednesday, November 13th at 5:30 p.m.

All Veterans from the community are invited to attend our Veterans Recognition Program on Wednesday, November 13th at 5:30 p.m.

All Veterans and their spouses are invited to attend this patriotic program presented by the church youth. Patriotic music, puppet show, junior hand bells and Veterans Day readings will be performed. Veterans will be the honored guests and light refreshments will be served.

The Presbyterian Church in Orland Park is located at 13401 South Wolf Road, Orland Park, Illinois 60467. For more information call 708-448-8142.

Special Olympics Unified Volleyball Team takes Gold

The Oak Lawn Park District's Unified Volleyball Team won a Gold medal in the Special Olympics State Volleyball Tournament at Harlem High School in Rockford, IL.

Congratulations team and a special thank you to coaches Annette Richards, Trish Sundermeier and John Welsh!

Unified volleyball is a sport that brings people with and without intellectual disabilities together to compete on the same team. This was the first year that Oak Lawn Park District formed a team.

For more information on the Oak Lawn Park District's Special Recreation Department, please contact 708-857-2200.

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Come see for yourself. Give us a call at (773) 474-7303.

Smith VILLAGE
A Smith Senior Living Community

You'll love the neighborhood!

Smith CCRCs to hold free support groups for caregivers

Smith Crossing in Orland Park and Smith Village in Chicago participate.

Residents of the Orland Park and Beverly neighborhoods who care for seniors living with Alzheimer's disease or dementia will get together with others who have the same concerns at free meetings Thursday, Nov. 7 at Smith Crossing and Tuesday, Nov. 12 at Smith Village in Chicago's Beverly neighborhood.

The hour-long gatherings at both continuing care retirement communities (CCRCs) begin at 6:30 p.m and will be open to questions and comments from the assembled groups. Before ending, light refreshments will be served.

On Nov. 7, Smith Crossing's director of admissions Amie Kamba and life enrichment director Dana Mahler will show a PBS documentary titled, "The Forgetting: A Portrait of Alzheimer's" and then hold an open forum discussion. Smith Crossing is at 10501 Emilie Lane in Orland Park (enter at 104th Avenue and 183rd Street). To reserve a place, please call 708-326-2300 or go to familyandfriends@smithcrossing.org.

Nov. 12, Smith Village's medical director Dr. Michael Thomas will speak on the different medicines that people with cognitive impairments take, such as mental acuity drugs. The meeting is being held at 2320 W. 113th Place in Chicago. To reserve a seat, please call 773-474-7300 or go to familyandfriends@smithvillage.org.

American Family Insurance Agent Andy Varga cuts the ribbon with Village of Orland Park Trustee Ed Schussler during a Ribbon Cutting Celebration held at Varga's new office located at 10600 W. 143rd Street. The ceremony was also a day to remember public service as fellow Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce members Centrue Bank, Rocco Vino's Italian Restaurant and Waddell & Reed helped organize the day's activities to honor the Orland Fire Protection District in remembrance of 9-11.

Tinley Park-Park District to hold Open House for Tinley Fitness Grand Opening

The Tinley Park-Park District will hold an open house on Saturday, November 16 as the official Grand Opening for the new Tinley Fitness expansion on to the Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center (8125 W. 171st Street, Tinley Park). The open house will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and will be the ideal time for residents and those interested in seeing the new fitness center to check out all the new building has to offer.

Staff members will be on hand leading guided tours of the new facility during the four-hour open house, and will hand out a complimentary workout towel to adult guests upon completion. Patrons will also be able to take home information on membership rates, benefits, and pool/group exercise schedules, in addition to being able to meet with Tinley Fitness' personal trainers.

Information on when operation of the fitness center will switch from the current location on Duvan Drive to the new location attached to the Recreation Center will be made available on tinleyparkdistrict.org and the Park District's Facebook page in the weeks leading up to the Grand Opening. Information will also be posted at Tinley Fitness and made available to its current members.

Oak Lawn Library events

Extra! Extra! The Headlines of Oak Lawn History

Join the Oak Lawn Public Library's Local History Department on Saturday, Nov. 9 as we unveil our latest exhibit, "Extra! Extra! The Headlines of Oak Lawn History!" From the Battle of Vicksburg in 1863 to the death of Mayor Ernie Kolb in 2003, the display features prominent local and national events of the last 150 years, and asks the question of how they impact Oak Lawn. Over 100 images and dozens of artifacts will be available for viewing. This exhibit will be open through summer of 2014.

Opera Lecture: La Traviata

A free lecture on the opera "La Traviata" on Sunday, Nov. 10 at 1:30 p.m. At this informative session, a member of the Lyric Opera Lecture Corps will explain the plot, play musical selections and give background on the composer. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Oak Lawn Public Library.

Science Club

The Oak Lawn Public Library's Science Club will meet on Tuesday, Nov. 12 from 3:45-4:45 p.m. Students will complete hands-on activities that will utilize Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) topics. The theme for this class is "Towers." Registration begins Nov. 2 and the class is open to children ages 11-13. For more information about this and other youth programs at the Library.

Book Assassins

The teen program "Book Assassins" will be held at the Oak Lawn Public Library on Wednesday, Nov. 20 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Sign up for the game and receive your target by 7 p.m. Contestants have from 7-8:30 p.m. to eliminate their target by stealing light sabers and claiming targets. The last assassin left standing, or the assassin with the most light sabers, wins the game. Snacks and drinks will be available for eliminated members in the safe zone. For more information about this and other young adult programs at the Oak Lawn Library.

Hollywood on Lake Michigan Live!

Chicago historian and tour guide Michael Corcoran will present his newest lecture "Hollywood on Lake Michigan Live!" on Thursday, Nov. 21 at 7 p.m. This lecture is a companion to Hollywood on Lake Michigan, 2nd Edition. The presentation will include a brief overview of Chicago's role in the early history of film, and regale with stories of famous Chicago films. For more information about this and other adult programs at the Oak Lawn Public Library.

The Oak Lawn Public Library, 9427 S. Raymond Avenue. For additional information, call 708-422-4990 or visit www.oaklawnlibrary.org.

VEGAS NIGHT
Saturday, Nov. 16
7 p.m. to Midnight
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Pictured right before kickoff of the first game of Ed's 30th year of refereeing are the St. Ann Golden Eagles (white jersey tops) and the St. Rene Raiders (green jersey tops). Ed is standing in the middle of the group, along with coaches and fellow referees.

Kozak celebrates 30th year of Officiating

Ed Kozak is celebrating his 30th year of refereeing youth football in the Chicagoland area. Ed, a resident of the Garfield Ridge community in Chicago, has done the vast majority of his contests locally, with teams from the high-school-level Chicago Catholic League and the Catholic Grade School Conference (CGSC). This contest took place at Hale Park on the southwest side in the Clearing neighborhood. The schools involved were two junior varsity teams (5th and 6th graders) from the CGSC. The teams that participated were St. Ann's of Channahon and St. Rene from Clearing.

"It's quite an honor to have worked so many years in this great sport. I always love the atmosphere, the spirit of the teams, and the competition between the schools. I also appreciate the exercise that I get each time I officiate," said Kozak. "I hope to continue my reffing avocation for many years to come," he added.

ComEd Openlands award Green to Municipalities and nonprofits for protecting green space

Inaugural Green Region environmental grant program to fund 17 projects in nine Illinois counties.

ComEd and Openlands awarded $125,000 in Green Region grants to 17 municipalities and nonprofits throughout northern Illinois to support their continuing efforts to conserve and protect open spaces. Many municipal and nonprofit budgets are stretched thin and U.S. cities face falling revenues for a sixth-straight year in the current economic climate, according to the National League of Cities, which makes these grants even more important.

This is the first year of the Green Region program in Illinois, a joint effort by ComEd and Openlands to fund municipal conservation and environmental projects. The Green Region grants relieve some of the financial strain faced by numerous municipalities and nonprofit organizations forced to make significant cuts to environmental programs due to budget constraints. The grants subsidize existing open space projects at the municipal level focusing on conservation, preservation, protecting endangered species, and improvements to local parks and recreation resources. Each grant applicant was eligible for a maximum of $10,000 per project.

Openlands, a Chicago-based nonprofit focused on land conservation, is administering the Green Region program. Municipalities and nonprofits throughout northern Illinois submitted their applications for a Green Region grant earlier this year. The applications were reviewed by an advisory committee of local environmental leaders selected by ComEd and Openlands.

The grants will be distributed by ComEd over the next two years. Openlands will monitor the 17 projects by developing applications, guidelines and a scorecard to track and measure the impact of each project.

The 17 inaugural Green Region grant recipients are:

Cook County

• Village of Brookfield, Village of Brookfield Open Space Plan

This project will fund an update to the Village's Open Space Plan and will address key natural systems within Brookfield, such as Salt Creek.

• Enlace Chicago, 6062 Trees Community Garden and Outdoor Classroom

This project will fund the design and installation of a rain garden and outdoor learning area within a community garden in the Little Village neighborhood of Chicago.

• Village of Hillside, Illinois Prairie Path Landscape Enhancement Project

The project includes capital and landscape improvements to the Illinois Prairie Path main stem segment passing through the village of Hillside.

• Village of Homewood, Izaak Walton Preserve Trail System Footbridge Replacement

This project will fund materials to build a replacement bridge for the existing footbridge located at trail marker BR0.11 on the four-mile Izaak Walton Preserve Trail in Homewood.

• Village of Orland Park, Orland Park Nature Center

This project will fund the site preparation including prairie seed mix and the development of a master plan for the Pebble Creek property and future nature center.

• City of Palos Heights, Lake Katherine Nature Center and Botanical Gardens

This kick-off project will implement the master site plan for Lake Katherine Nature Center and Botanical Gardens and its surrounding natural areas.

• Village of Park Forest, Central Park Wetland – Three Year Ecosystem Enhancement Plan

The three-year improvement plan aims to restore the quality and habitat of the site through enhancement activities like invasive weed control, mowing and prescribed burns and water level management.

• Village of Wilmette, Elmwood Dunes Preserve

This project will restore and protect the bluff and dune ecosystem at Elmwood Dunes Preserve by purchasing and planting native plants, trees and seeds, and installing educational signage.

"Green Region is a great opportunity for local governments, nonprofits and ComEd to work together in improving our environment and conserving open space across nine counties in northern Illinois," said Jerry Adelmann, president and CEO, Openlands. "This program—which is an effective tool to help local municipalities and nonprofits invest in their own future, especially in this economy—is possible because of ComEd's remarkable commitment and dedication to our region."

"At ComEd, we're always looking for innovative ways to better partner with the communities we serve. Supporting organizations that are doing great work to protect and preserve resources is a natural fit," said Fidel Marquez, senior vice president of Governmental and External Affairs, ComEd. "As a company, we are dedicated to creating a more sustainable future and our Green Region grantees are key partners in that ongoing effort."

The Green Region grants were presented to the 17 organizations during Openlands' 50th Anniversary Luncheon in Chicago. The luncheon is the largest gathering of the conservation community in the Chicagoland area.

Green Region was first established by ComEd's sister company, Philadelphia-based PECO, in 2004. PECO has distributed more than $1.1 million to open space projects in the Philadelphia area.

Additional information on the Green Region program can be found at www.openlands.org/greenregion.

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7:00pm

Girls Night Out
Friday, December 13, 2013
6:00pm – 9:00pm
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www.mothermcauley.org

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See what it's like to be a McAuley girl! Call or visit us online to schedule your Shadow Day!

De La Salle students volunteer at Bank of America Chicago Marathon

De La Salle Institute proudly announces that over 140 of its students volunteered at the recent Bank of America Chicago Marathon. Those young women and men who took part distributed Gatorade, water and bananas to the participants at stands set up near mile marker 23 at 34th Street and Michigan Avenue in Chicago. In addition, the De La Salle students also provided words of encouragement and good will to the runners.

"It was wonderful to see so many of our students contributing to such a worthy cause," De La Salle athletic director Tom White said. "The fact that many runners thanked us for being out there made the day even more memorable.

"The Meteors always contribute when needed. I'm proud of our students and I'm grateful for the exemplary way in which they represented our school."

De La Salle Institute is an independent Catholic secondary school rooted in the tradition of Christian Education begun by St. John Baptist de La Salle. Founded in 1889, its mission has been, and is, to foster a desire for excellence in education. Young people from a variety of ethnic and economic backgrounds are given the opportunity to fully develop their abilities so they may be active, contributing members of our complex changing society.

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Please bring $25 test fee and No. 2 pencils

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Moraine Valley to host medical presentation on pelvic floor disorders

Moraine Valley Community College is hosting its Medical Education Series presentation on "What's New in Pelvic Floor Disorders" from 7 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 12, in the Dorothy Menker Theater in the Fine and Performing Arts Center, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills. The event is co-sponsored by Northwestern Memorial Hospital and is free and open to the public.

Dr. Kimberly Kenton and Dr. Anne Marie Boller are presenting this topic. Dr. Kenton is the director of the Integrated Pelvic Health Program, professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Urology, and chief of Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery (urogynecology) at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. She is board certified in Obstetrics and Gynecology and completed an accredited fellowship in Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery at Loyola University Medical Center. Dr. Kenton is a nationally recognized leader in surgical education, developing innovative surgery and research educational curricula, and serving as a member of the ACGME Obstetrics and Gynecology Residency Review Committee.

Dr. Boller earned a master's degree in Medical Sciences from the Boston University School of Medicine before attaining an MD from the University of Minnesota Medical School. She had a fellowship in Colon and Rectal Surgery at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester as well as at the University of Minnesota's Pelvic Floor Center. She is involved in the development of Northwestern Memorial's Integrated Pelvic Health Program.

Since 2004, Moraine Valley's Career/Health Sciences Programs and Northwestern Memorial Hospital have collaborated to host this Medical Education Series on health topics, including foot and ankle trauma, prostate cancer, cardiovascular disease, sleep disorders, mind-body pain management, tobacco cessation, diabetes, spinal surgery, and cochlear implants.

For more information call Mari Smith at (708) 608-4039 or email her at Smithm@morainevalley.edu.

Queen of Peace Environmental Task Force continues to help clean up historic Portage site

The Queen of Peace Environmental Task Force meets monthly at the historic Portage Site at 4800 S. Harlem in Lyons. This is the schools adoptive site. Each month they do something different to help clean and maintain the property.

Recently, the Queen of Peace Environmental Students Priscilla Rodriquez and Melody Hage helped the Friends of the Portage Site participate in their monthly clean-up day. The students spent their day picking seeds that would be used for planting in the spring at the Portage Historic Site.

About Queen of Peace

Queen of Peace, a Catholic Dominicans of Sinsinawa college preparatory high school, educates and empowers diverse young women in an environment that inspires academic excellence. The Queen of Peace community promotes collaboration, moral and ethical leadership, service and a passion for peace and justice. The school is located at 7659 S. Linder Ave. in Burbank, IL. To learn more about Queen of Peace please visit us at http://www.queenofpeacehs.org/.

Advertise your Thanksgiving Day Specials!
Call 708-425-1910 to advertise or for more information

Brother Rice hosts Academic Bowl

Brother Rice High School was pleased to hold its first Academic Bowl, hosted by the National Honor Society. NHS moderator Mrs. Janet Rzeszutko organized, greeted, and presented awards to the teams. She was assisted by teachers Mrs. Beth Van, Mrs. Cindy Charters, and Scholastic Bowl moderator Mrs. Michelle England, who acted as MC for the competitions.

Eight teams from local area schools participated in the event, Cardinal Bernardin, St. Bede, St. Christina, St. Gerald, and St. Linus each sent a team to participate, while St. Michael and St. Christina each sent two teams.

The teams began the day with each individual on the team taking a written test of 20 questions; they then competed as teams for another round of 20 questions. The top four teams from rounds 1 and 2 combined then advanced to the final round. Trophies were awarded to 1st and 2nd place teams, and all participants received certificates and prizes.

Top awards were taken by Cardinal Bernadin, followed by St. Christina's 8th grade team; also in the "final 4" were St. Gerald and St. Christina's 7th grade team.

Chef Michael Kornick prepares food for Duo of Spanish Olive Vinaigrettes.

Happiness is being with Chef Michael Kornick

Many culinary and cuisine aficionados were honored to have Chef Michael Kornick at mk The Restaurant prepare dishes with olives from Spain. Chef stated that he wasn't quite ready to change his menu, but you will be able to get his duo of Spanish olive vinaigrettes.

This dish consists of Spanish black olive, blue cheese and scallion dressing, watercress, cherry tomatoes, stuffed Spanish manzanilla olive, orange & walnut vinaigrette, field greens, frisee, endive.

I would order this along with his special entre of swordfish. It is grilled block island swordfish, rappini, oven dried tomatoes, Calabrese peppers, golden raisins, yellow curry beurre blanc.

Also what would go well with the above mentioned vinaigrette would be Prime New York Sirloin grilled over hardwood charcoal, roasted Nichols Farm melrose peppers, green acres farm spring onions, red wine sauce.

mk The Restaurant is open for dinner and you can find the information on the website www.mkchicago.com

Tinley Park Park District is presenting Comedy Improv and Open Mic

Those wanting to showcase their talents and performing abilities will be able to during the Tinley Park-Park District's Comedy Improv and Open Mic Night on Saturday, November 9 at the Tinley Park Performing Arts Center 6801 S. 80th Avenue. The show starts at 7 p.m.

Kidz on the Bridge and Graffiti on the Fourth Wall Comedy Troupes will begin the show, and then the floor will be open to anyone wishing to share their talents. Stand-up comedians, singers, actors, instrumentalists; any type of performance can grace the stage at this popular event. All material must be family friendly, as this is an all-ages show.

Tickets for the show are $7.00 and will be sold at the door the night of the performance. Interested performers should contact Kimberly Madden at (708)342-4200, as limited spots for performers are available. Those performing in the show get free admission.

Steppenwolf Theater for Young Adults presents Lord Of The Flies

A young portrayal of violence, justifiably suited for the youth to understand the meaning of good and evil, was seen by a good number of people recently. A psychologist by the name of Dr. Philp Zimbardo, professor emeritus at Standford University, defined evil as the exercise of power in order to psychologically or physically harm another human being.

There is a large cast who is making their debut at Steppenwolf, and for this reason I could state that they made their director happy. They all express many emotions that most of the audience found difficult to accept. It was only a play about, disertion, loneliness, fear, anger, lust, hunger, cannibalism, etc.

William Golding's Lord of the Flies at Steppenwolf is directed by Hallie Gorden, Educational Director and Artistic Director for Young Adults at Steppenwolf.

Hallie did a wonderful job at the helm showing off the cast's professionalism in theater.

The large cast referred to in the article is an all male cast which includes William Burke, Spencer Curnutt, Lane Flores, Rudy Galvan, Ryan Heindl, Cale Manning, Brendan Meyer, Lance Newton, Ty Olwin, Kevin Quinn, Adam Shalzi, Dan Smeriglio. It is a marvel that they could utilize the stage as an island and be able to bring the effect of trihalism, rivalry and violence to the audience.

Lord of the Flies runs until November 15, 2013; public performances are scheduled Friday at 7:30pm; Saturday at 3 and 7:30pm, and Sunday at 3pm. Single tickets $20 are on sale now through Audience Services 1650 N Halsted St. 312-335-1650 and steppenwolf.org. School group tickets are available through Education Assistant Lauren Sivak at 312-654-5643.

Ringling Brothers Circus will appear at Allstate Arena between November 1st and 11th and ten shows at the United Center between November 20th and December 1st.

Hello Dolly is at the Drury Lane Theatre

This production is truly a work of art from lighting to set design. The introduction of the play takes us to the late 1800's with a remarkable set. Karen Ziemba as Dolly Levi, is by far the best portrayal of Ethel Merman, and wow, can she belt them out. Ms. Ziemba has quite a portfolio, for she has been nominated several times for her roles in Steel Pier, Never Gonna Dance and Curtains.

They are performing until January 5, 2014 and a great suggestion is to get your groups together now for the matinees.

Call for tickets at the box office 630-530-0111 or visit www.drurylane.com

Natya Dance appeared at Harris Theater

Chicago's critically-acclaimed and longest running dance company rooted in the Indian dance-theater technique of Bharata Natyam, returns to the Harris Theater with the World Premiere of The Seventh Love, an exploration of love in eastern teachings based on the life of the god

Natya Dance Theatre Photo by Ravi Ganapathy

Krishna. Accompanied by original music from Rajkumar Bharathi, who also composed for Natya's premiere of The *Flowering Tree* at the Harris Theater in 2011, and brilliant costumes designed by Ruknini Rajans and Krithika Rajagopalan, Hema Rajagopalan's Bharata Natyam choreography, full of percussive footwork, symbolic hand gestures, fascinating geometry in movement and engaging facial expressions, uses 15 dancers to bring the story of *The Seventh Love* to life in a fresh, contemporary way that sheds new light on the ancient mysteries of love, life and human relationships.

For more information on Natya Dance Theatre and its programs, please visit www.natya.com.

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Dealing with dust

(NAPSA)-The American College of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology has some advice for the millions of Americans for whom "allergy season" never ends: Reducing the dust in your home can make a big difference. Most indoor environments, it says, actually trap airborne allergens, where they can pose a risk to respiratory health.

If you suspect indoor allergies are causing your symptoms, see your doctor. You can limit your exposure.

Tiny Particles=Big Problem

House dust is present in even the cleanest homes. It's stirred up whenever you vacuum, walk on a carpet or make the bed. In addition, forced-air heating systems tend to blow dust into the air.

A Solution

Fortunately, frequently washing your linens and cleaning air ducts can go

(continued on next page)

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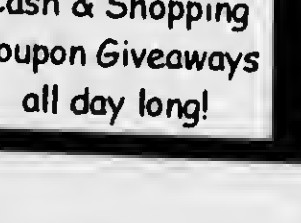

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(continued from previous page)

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Learn_More

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Winter Basketball League

Palos Park, in conjunction with Palos Heights Recreation Department and Worth Park District, offer a winter basketball league for children in grades one through eight.

Participants will emphasize play while developing skills in this basketball league. Each child will have one practice and one game per week while learning the value of teamwork. There will be separate leagues formed for boys and girls and they will be grouped by grades one and two, three and four, five and six, and seven and eight. Volunteer coaches will be needed for this league and coaches need to register before Nov. 22. Coaches will be expected to participate in the player evaluations; coaches will evaluate players and also draft their teams. There will be a coaches meeting prior to the start of the season. Player evaluations will be conducted by coaches on Saturday Nov. 30 and Dec. 1. Games will be held Saturdays, Jan. 18 through March 15 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. with exact game time TBD. For additional information and fee structure, call 708-671-3760.

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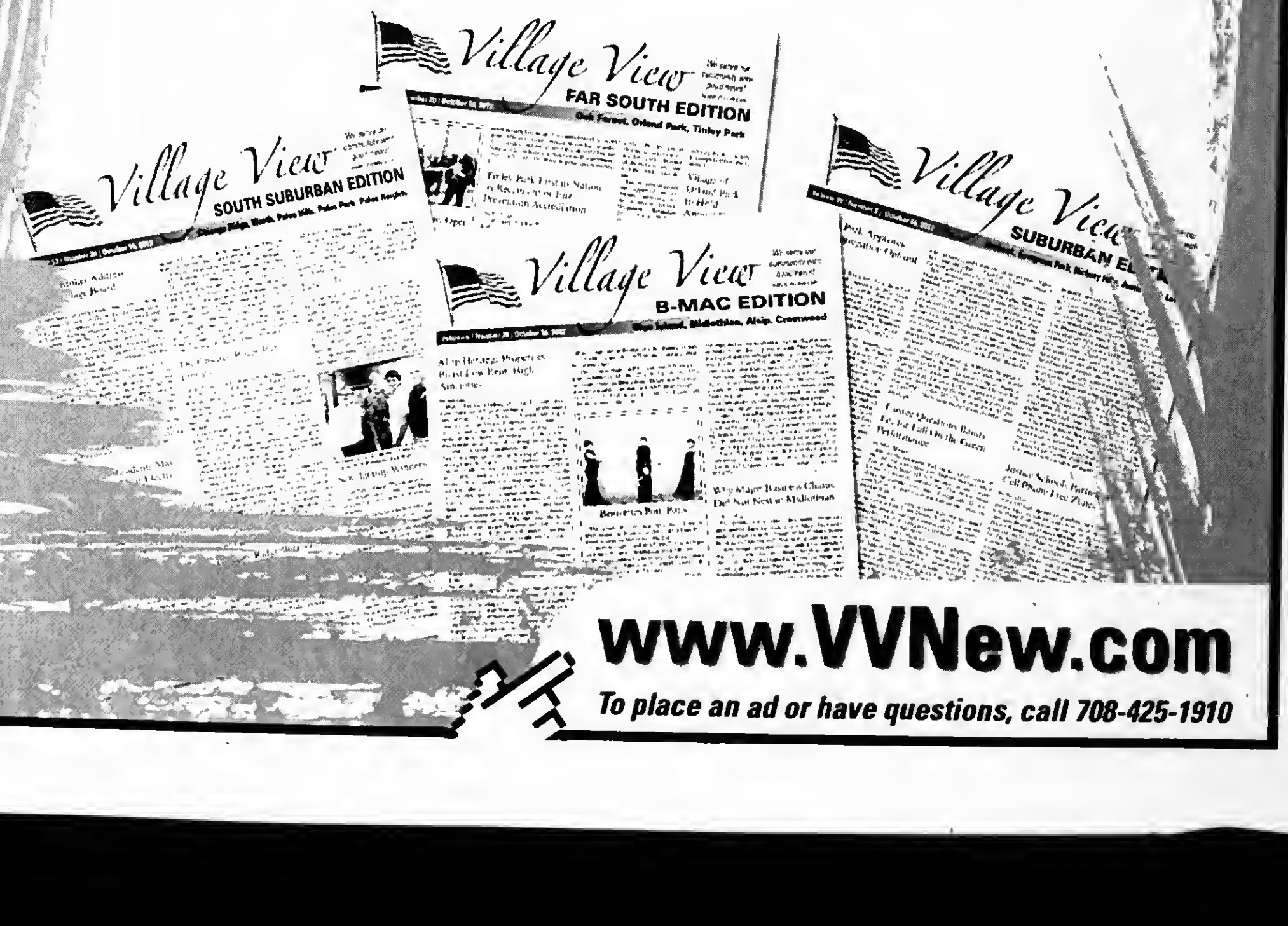

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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 40 | Number 10 | November 19, 2013

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

EP approves the Evergreen Park Place Business District Redevelopment Plan

by Matt Mayer

A public hearing preceded the Nov. 4 Evergreen Park Board of Trustees meeting regarding the Evergreen Park Place business district plan and an eligibility study for the demolition and redevelopment of the Plaza at 95th Street and Western Avenue. The current Plaza, which closed on May 31, has only one retailer, Carson's, remaining. Planet Fitness also remains open in the Plaza as well as Applebee's, which is located on an out lot.

Following the public meeting officials approved ordinance No 22-2013 that approves the Evergreen Park Place business district redevelopment plan, which designates the Plaza site as blighted. Ordinance No 23-2013, which allows a 1 percent sales tax increase to reimburse for the demolition costs within the development area, was passed as well as Ordinance No 24-2013, which decreases the property tax rate from 25 percent to 10 percent. This ordinance must be approved by Cook County.

Village Attorney Vince Cainkar said, "There will he a special service area in the development which will raise the tax rates". Mayor James Sexton said, "Those taxing bodies who have been collecting property taxes have had a pretty good couple of years with the Golf Course and Webb property, so nohody should be out substantially with this particular thing. But again it's part of trying to make this thing happen. It still has to come back before the hoard. A lot of things have to happen in the next 45-60 days. We're hoping this is just part of it," said Sexton.

The Business District Development and Redevelopment Act allow municipalities to designate an area of the municipality as a business district. Addition information regarding the developer DeBartello may be ohtained by visiting www.debartellodevelopment.com/

Budget Health discussed at Justice board meeting

hy Jan Glaz

Trustee Ed Rusch Jr., Finance and Insurance Chairman, introduced Village Treasurer and Financial Consultant Kelly Zahinski recently at the Village of Justice President and Board of Trustees meeting to address the Board und review the upcoming Village Levy. This year the Village is starting the budget workshop at a $250,000.00 defieit as opposed to the $500,000.00 defieit of previous years. Kelly Zabinski said that an important question the board will decide upon at the budget/ levy meeting is if the $100,000.00 given to the pension fund this year should be made permanent, verses making it an option. The Department of Insurance has been tracking every pension fund that falls below the State average of 50%. The Village must maintain a rate of 50% or the State will send a letter and mandate it. The Treasurer reported Village funding is approximately in the mid-50 range. Operation-wise Justice is doing well this year and continues to be in the positive. "The Village has been in a deficit equity position for the past 5 to 6 years; climbing out the last few years... I believe in 2013 we can he out of that hole," said Zabinski.

Trustee Rusch complimented the Board of Trustees prior to adopting 'An Ordinance Approving a Second Amendment to the Communications Site Lease Agreement hy and hetween The Village of Justice and American Tower Asset Sub. LLC.' Rusch did quick math on the first 15 years leasing towers and based on the dollar amount the Village would receive per month for those 15 years the total was approximately $380,000.00. "You'll remember not long ago we entertained propositions to sell all three cell towers for around $400,000.00. I commend the Board for making a very wise decision keeping the towers," said Rusch.

Newsworthy motions that carried before adjournment: Trustee Henry Oszakiewski announced an ordinance amending the regulation of tobacco products. Oszakiewski said that the amendment clarified the code in regards to prohibiting tobacco products that do not display a Cook County or State of Illinois Tax Stamp also it is unlawful for a tobacco retailer to offer for sale, give away or deliver any single cigarettes: there is a $750 fee fine for each separate offense. Home Occupation Licenses were approved for two businesses – Preferred Home Improvement, Inc. d/b/a Heritage Roofing at 8900 W. 85th Street and Juski Exteriors, Inc. at 7915 W. 73rd Place. And for the assistance the Village has received all year from the Bridgeview/Justice Emergency Management Agency (EMA) the Board approved an authorization of $2,500.00 to be paid from funds budgeted for their services; an amount not to exceed $1,275.00 for a proposal from A.P. Construction to remove, purchase and install carpet, pad and repair, primer and paint all walls in the clerk's office met with approval. Removal and replacement of all furnishings and all necessary supplies are included.

Hickory Hills approves City Employee Health Plan

hy Jan Glaz

After months of lengthy discussions and meetings, the City of Hickory Hills passed the City Employee Health Insurance Plan on November 14th. Time was running short as the upcoming renewal date is January 1, 2014. Previously, Treasurer Dan Schramm distrihuted a copy of the City's Employee Health Insurance plan options to the Insurance Committee and Health committee but they had not been ahle to fully offer the plans to the employees without the renewal premium quotes. As late as October 24th the Insurance Committee had not received updated premium quotes from the BCBSIL underwriter. When the premium quotes came in the Committee asked for direction from the City Council on the plan options to be offered to the employees and the Employee Health Insurance Plan. Plan Options 1, 2, and 4 met with unanimous council approval. Briefly, option #1, as a replacement to the current PPO plan: option #2 as an additional PPO plan: option #4 an HMO plan offers the lowest premiums and does not expose employees to deductihle and out of pocket risk (only copays). The HMO lower contribution rate gives employees contribution savings.

Other meeting news: Officer Dan McCauley received a 20 year Service Pin presented by Chief of Police Alan Vodicka along with an informative reading of the events that contributed to his outstanding career. Mayor Mike Howley proclaimed the month of December as National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month to promote safer and healthier behaviors regarding the use of alcohol and other drugs during the holiday season. And before the meeting adjourned, Alderman Brian Waight announced the names of new businesses that have chosen to open in Hickory Hills: Mahles Kitchen & Catering, at 8833 W. 87th Street, owner Audrey McClenton: Pending approval from the fire department - Midwest Auto Credit Company, selling cars on line, located at 7734 W. 96th Place: and Aarons Rental Center, owner Mark E. Hendriehs, rent to own furniture, appliances and electronics, located at 9600 S. Roberts Road.

Family Turkey Shoot at Evergreen Park

Evergreen Park Youth Commission's Family Turkey Shoot is Saturday, November 23rd beggining at 10:30 am.

The event will take place at the Activity Center located at 3200 W. 98th Street.

The event is open to 3rd through 8th graders and families.

Family team with the most free throws wins a 10-12 lb. turkey!

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 22 | November 19, 2013

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Oak Forest slapped with one million dollar dilemma

by Jan Glaz

Recently, the Oak Forest lawmakers passed 'A Resolution, a Settlement Agreement with RSC & Associates, Gateway Developer and the City of Oak Forest, providing that the developer will no longer be involved in this project and is transferring the remaining parcels to be developed back to the City'. The resolution passing 5-2 stands as a bittersweet solution to a $1 million dilemma involving the completion of the Oak Forest Metra Train Station area. The dilemma began on June 13, 2006 when the City approved RSC & Associates to market and redevelop property known as the "Metra-Lot." After refining the site plan, the Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the Gateway Mixed-Use Planned Unit Development. The developer received a deed to the property from the City as a conveyance; on the condition all requirements of the project were fulfilled. Unfortunately, a financial collapse occurred in 2008 and froze any advancement of financing the construction of the project area. In an attempt to restart the project RSC, with the City's acknowledgement, obtained a loan from the bank to be used towards operating costs. In October of 2012 the bank decided to call the note and asked the developer to refinance the loan or provide more money. The developer, unable to meet the banks request, chose to walk away from the (RDA) project. In addition, the developer would only release the deed to the property with a stipulation, not to sue. The bank met with the City and determined it will not ask for payment as long as the City locates a new developer willing to negotiate the note, which is approximately $1million dollars; an appraisal eight months ago on the property came in at approximately $1.8 million.

Prior to passing the resolution, Alderman Ensign unleashed gritty language, "So there's a $1 million lien on the property?" Community Development Director Adam Dotson corrected. "It's not a lien; it's a note, an encumbrance." Ensign continued. "The city doesn't benefit at all from this agreement except for the fact that we're getting a piece of property back, that was originally the City's property in the first place, and we have to pay back a million dollars before we can do anything with it." Dotson replied, "No matter what we say or do there is still a million dollar encumbrance against the property and the only way to clear it, is not for the City to pay for it; it's to bring a developer in to pay for it." Ensign commented that Oak Forest paid a lot of money to develop a property that so far only shows a CVS store." Concerned, Alderman Hortsman, who along with Alderman Ensign, voted nay to the Resolution, asked Dotson, "If we don't find a developer what then is the time frame before the bank comes after the City?" Dotson replied, "They've proposed to our attorney an agreement that had March 31st on it." Hortsman: "Of 2014?" Dotson responded. "Yes." It's a long process and a no win for the City to sue the developer, the property must be marketed as soon as possible. Citing hope, Dotson affirmed that the City has 5 groups very interested who understand that there is an encumbrance on the property.

Tinley Park term limit issue ends in limbo

by Jan Glaz

In response to an advisory referendum passed by 72 percent of voters favoring term limits for elected officials the Village of Tinley Park created the Tinley Park Term Limits Commission to study the issue. On September 18, 2013 the Term Limits Commission made public a final report; it could not offer a full recommendation for the Village to institute term limits for its elected officials. On November 5th the Village Board having the authority to accept or reject all or any part of the Commission's report, acted to accept it. Karen Weigand, failed incumbent in the Tinley Park April 2013 election, approached the Board and questioned the acceptance. She summed up the sentiments of those in support of term limits by asking, "What is the next step? Are we going to hope it goes away?"

Edward J. Zabrocki, long standing Mayor since 1981, informed Weigand that there was no next step. Village Clerk Patrick E. Rea addressed Weigand; be stated that academic interest is still being raised as the Village is in the process of distributing 76 copies of the report to area clerks who had asked for them. Copies will be delivered to various universities and senior colleges; multiple communities, 5 in Illinois, 6 from California and 4 from Michigan; and 5 commission speakers: All are sent with requests for comments. Rea's information prompted Weigand to respond. "Myself being one of the 14,500 residents who voted and had commented that we wanted it; basically we're just going to wait?" Rea answered, "The commission made a report and the Board was asked to accept or reject within 60 days, that's today." Weigand translated Rea's statement as a subtle dig that the issue was lost when she asked, "A year later... after 72% said they wanted it, we're waiting for comments from everybody? Do you think I'll see it in my lifetime?" When Clerk Rea answered by associating the 72 percent term limit vote with the decisive win in which over 70 percent of votes carried to reelect Edward J. Zabrocki, Weigand, in disgust, waived her hand and left the podium.

Before the meeting adjourned, Trustees moved to award a contract to Firehouse Software for a Fire Department Management System in a cost not to exceed $153,060.00. This approval completes the approximately eighteen months the Village has been working toward implementation of new Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system, which is expected to be "live" around January 1, 2014. The current software is approximately 15 years old. The Village determined Firehouse to be the most qualified vendor as OSSI the Village's CAD Vendor has a partner relationship with Firehouse and integration of the new system will be virtually seamless. Firehouse is the most common fire management software application is use and there is in existence a well-established Firehouse "users group" where software questions can be answered at no charge to the Village.

Orland clamps down on identity theft

by Jan Glaz

With the passing of Village Ordinance code amendment - Title 6 Chapter 10 on October 4th, Orland Park officials opened the door for identity theft to be added to the list of offenses allowing a vehicle to be seized or impounded. As of August 20, 2013 the police department had received 104 reports of identity theft from residents and others doing business in Orland Park. These crimes have an adverse effect on the residents and businesses who become victims of the offense. A survey of area police departments indicated that many municipalities authorize impoundment for all criminal offenses while others, like Orland, maintain a list authorizing the individual offenses for which vehicles may be impounded. The police department requested that the offense of identity theft be added to the list of offenses allowing a vehicle to be seized or impounded where such motor vehicle is operated by the owner or with the express or implied permission of the owner or is used in the commission of any of the violations identified in 720 ILCS 5/16-30.

In other business, lawmakers approved an 'Ordinance Conveyance of Property to Orland Fire Protection District' (OFPD). In September of 2012 the Orland Fire Protection District approached the Village staff regarding the Village-owned pond property (163rd Place Industrial Pond) adjacent to their training facility. The OFPD is in the process of making upgrades to the training facility and improving their training capabilities. With the improvements they desired to incorporate a water area for diver training. The Village-owned site is currently a dry pond which is only accessible through the Orland Fire Protection District property. The OFPD intend to excavate within the existing footprint, creating a wet pond of sufficient depth for training purposes. Maintenance and upkeep of the pond will become the responsibility of the OFPD. There will be no expenses or revenues from the conveyance of this parcel to the Orland Fire Protection District.

Final meeting note; the Board of Trustees adopted a Resolution, a Geographic Information System (GIS) Agreement with Cook County in regards to Orland Park accessing Cook County's GIS data base for use with the Village GIS program, at no cost. Cook County requires a resolution and agreement prior to use of this data.

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SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 14 | Number 22 | November 19, 2013

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Chicago Ridge reports RidgeFest profit

by Matt Mayer

Officials reported at the Chicago Ridge Board of Trusties meeting that the profit from this Years Ridge Fest, which is a charitable event, was $3,659.00 pending a final bill from the Park District and Recreation Department. Once the village is invoiced, the profit may be less, officials said. Mayor Chuck Tokar said, "We made a profit every year except for three years and RidgeFest is going on 24 years. We obviously did not make the profits we had expected but we did turn a profit." said Tokar.

Ticket prices for this year's fest were $15 down from last years all time high of $25. Tickets were also available this year online at a reduced price.

Tokar said, "Next year is going to be our Centennial, which is a once in a lifetime event. We are going to determine how much to spend for a headliner and still manage our special events fund. We want to highlight local artists from Chicago Ridge while still providing a headliner for our 100th Anniversary", said Tokar.

Other highlights: A no parking ordinance for the east side of Oak park Avenue was approved as well as a resolution regarding the acceptance of public improvements at the Kerry Ridge subdivision and a release of the letter of credit.

Fire Fighter Dave Bricker was promoted to Lieutenant retroactive to July 1, 2012. A Police Department request to hire one police officer from the eligibility list and a fire department request to purchase hose fittings in the amount of $5,445.00 was approved as well as a Public Works request to purchase a dump truck in the amount of $111,936.00.

(center) Dr. Steven Timmermans, president of Trinity Christian College, and Dr. Sylvia M. Jenkins, president of Moraine Valley Community College
(l-r) David Deitemyer, dean of Academic Services, Moraine Valley; Debby Blatzer, director of Academic Advising Programs and Services, Moraine Valley; Tina Carney-Simon, transfer coordinator, Articulation, Moraine Valley; Kim Fabian, executive director of Marketing and Communications, Trinity Christian; Jaynn Tobias-Johnson, registrar, Trinity Christian; Dr. Elizabeth Rudenga, Provost, Trinity Christian; Joann Wright, dean of Counseling and Advising, Moraine Valley; Dr. Pamela Haney, vice president of Academic Affairs, Moraine Valley; Dr. Margaret Lehner, vice president of Institutional Advancement, Moraine Valley; Dr. Normah Salleh-Barone, vice president of Student Development, Moraine Valley; Walter Fronczek, dean of Liberal Arts, Moraine Valley; Robert Sterkowitz, chief financial officer, Moraine Valley; and Chet Shaw, dean of Student Services, Moraine Valley.

Moraine Valley and Trinity Christian College strengthen transfer ties

Moraine Valley Community College students will now have a seamless path to transfer to Trinity Christian College in Palos Heights.

The Trinity-Moraine Admissions Collaboration (T-MAC) Agreement, signed by Trinity's President Steven Timmermans and Moraine Valley's President Sylvia M. Jenkins recently, offers transfer students a choice of collaborative program options in addition to other benefits, including:

- Academic advising prior to transfer
- Scholarship award of at least $4,000/year for eligible students
- Application for additional need-based financial assistance
- Waiving of the Trinity application fee

Collaborative program options have also been developed under the agreement.

One option allows students to earn a professional counseling degree in just five years of starting their degree at Moraine Valley. Students first earn associate and bachelor's degrees in psychology in three years, then, depending on eligibility and meeting entrance requirements, immediately enter Trinity's master of art's degree in counseling psychology program. The two colleges also revised the transfer agreement that leads to a bachelor's degree in Trinity's Adult Studies business program. This ensures that the courses students take at both institutions are coordinated and will lead to degree completion.

An additional collaborative program enables students to complete an associate degree with a psychology major at Moraine Valley and then transfer to Trinity to complete a bachelor's degree with a major in cognitive and speech development and a minor in speech and communication sciences.

"I'm pleased to have entered into this partnership with Moraine Valley Community College, for it ensures our two institutions make it easy for students who begin their studies at Moraine to understand, each step of the way, what is needed for their ultimate transfer to Trinity," Dr. Timmermans said.

"We are pleased to offer this opportunity to our students. We appreciate the coordinated efforts made between our two institutions to provide another avenue of success for students," said Dr. Jenkins added.

"Moraine Valley is grateful to Dr. Timmermans and his team for listening attentively to our feedback on what community college students are looking for in a transfer school and in articulated agreements. We are very excited about the clear pathway that Dr. Timmermans has agreed on for Master of Arts degree in Counseling Psychology and the generous scholarships our students will receive should they decide to transfer to Trinity," said Dr. Normah Salleh-Barone, vice president of Student Development.

"This agreement serves students and our communities for it outlines specific steps for students in ways that ultimately benefit those people and institutions with whom they will work. It was a pleasure to work with the staff at Moraine Valley in developing the agreement," said Dr. Elizabeth Rudenga, provost of Trinity Christian.

Worth BP Station Convenience Store to reopen by year-end

by Matt Mayer

At the brief Nov. 5 Worth Board of Trustees meeting, Mayor Mary Werner announced that the closed BP station at Southwest Highway and Harlem is slated to reopen by year-end. . The shuttered BP station has been closed for more that a year. The new management team is in the process of installing new pumps that will be an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) mandate in January. Werner added that the station has been upgraded and will look like the Hickory Hills station on 95th Street near Roberts Road.

Other highlights: The Worth Park District has agreed to take over the operation of Worth Days Fest and will sign a transition agreement with the village that will begin in 2014. The reported profit from this year's fest was $7,857. The profit encompassed donations, beverage sales and carnival revenue.

Cristiano Fernandez received the oath of office as police sergeant serving on the force for 8 years. The board approved an 2.7 percent salary increase for non-union employees which is the equivalent to the increase received by village union employees

A Customer Appreciation Event is slated to be held by Waters Edge Golf Course from Nov. 18-22 for $24.99, which will include a round of golf with a cart and lunch.

Never Forget Memorial in Worth, IL. on 111th & Harlem.

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B-MAC EDITION

Volume 7 | Number 22 | November 19, 2013

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Crestwood bids farewell to one dollar license fee

by Jan Glaz

Sad, but true, on November 7th Crestwood lawmakers voted to raise renewal fees for Business Licenses and Liquor Licenses from its long standing base fee of $1.00. When interviewed in regards to the change, Village Clerk Jeannette O'Donnell commented, "Originally there were regular fees for business licenses but when the residents began receiving rebates the Village, to make businesses happy, dropped the renewal fee to $1.00. The businesses have been receiving this price three years longer now than the residents have been receiving rebates." The raise is necessary to cover rising cost and it will be effective immediately for new businesses coming into Crestwood and will be enforced at renewal time in 2014 for existing business. The cost increase, based on footage for business license fees range from $100 to $500.00. The increase for liquor licenses effective for the new licenses issued and renewals for the fiscal year May 1, 2013 to April 30, 2014: Package liquor sales will be $300.00; beer and wine consumption on premises will be $400.00; full service bars will be $500.00. All other fees for vending, non-video amusement machines, juke box, ice, food service, dairy and cigarettes etc. will remain unchanged.

End notes: The Crestwood Village Board agreed to consider an Ordinance increasing the number of Police Officers of the Police Department to 4; and direct the Fire and Police Commission to hire 2 full-time Patrolman from the current eligibility list. The Village Clerk is authorized by the Board to publish Legal Notice for Standard Bank Stadium/Windy City Thunderbolt's License Agreement. News in regard to Vehicle Stickers: although the 2014 Vehicle Stieker applications for Crestwood residents will be mailed between November 18th and 26th the stiekers will not go on sale until December 2, 2013 and owners of multiple vehicles need to wait until they receive all applications before purchasing their stickers.

Midlothian saves an estimated thirtyfive thousand dollars on Economic Plan

by Jan Glaz

Execution of a letter of support and a pledge of $2.000 to cover some costs for University of Illinois students to produce an Economic Development Plan for the Village of Midlothian met with approval recently at the Board of Trustees Meeting. Trustee Jerome Gillis commented that the authorization saves the Village quite a bit of money, an estimated $35.000; the cost of an Economic Plan. The opportunity presented itself through the Village's relationship with the South Suburban Mayors and Managers, said Trustee Karen Kreis.

An Ordinance authorizing the Fire Department to begin Advanced Life Support (ALS) came under question when Trustee Don Killelea referenced concern about the ordinance in regards to wording that if the ambulance call was a 'do not transport call' that there could be a charge anyway. Fire Chief Steven Hotwagner replied the terms related to a situation where drugs are administrated. We have to bill it that way for coding for the billing process. We need to be paid for the cost of the drugs, such as insulin for diabetics, added Chief Hotwagner. Trustee Gillis added that the Village is not itemizing things and are actually lowering the rate to residents by charging a flat rate. The Board voted in favor beginning ALS Transport.

Near the end of the meeting, passage of a Resolution to Execute Renewal of the Blue Cross Blue Shield document for Village Employees met with a motion to table at the request of Trustee Vince Schavone who said the Employees did not have enough time to review the document. Outraged at the prospect of delay, Trustee Don Killelea announced that he had spent a lot of his own time on the plan in addition to sitting in at Insurance Meetings. "The bottom line is there is no determent to the employees, actually it will benefit them more." said Killelea. Trustee Kreis reminded the Board that they had a deadline of November 15 and if they didn't approve it, it could jeopardize a plan that is saving the employees money. Trustee Gillis suggested they vote on the issue with a stipulation to ask Blue Cross for a five day extension; and in that time acquire employee feedback. The Board agreed to the recommendation: Trustee Schavone withdrew his motion to table and the document was renewed.

Alsip waives bidding process for purchase of 2013 Ambulance

by Jan Glaz

A request from Alsip Trustee Kevin Michaels for an ordinance to waive the bidding for the purchase of an ambulance in the Village of Alsip met with approval at the Village of Alsip Board Meeting November 4th. Alsip Fire Chief Thomas Styczynski explained that in the past the bidding process was also waived for E.R. Ambulances and Fire Engines to keep their fleet uniform with the same manufacture: the purchased ambulance will be identical to the other two ambulanees. "All the equipment's in the same location, everything's in the same place so we don't hunt," said Styczynski. Chief Styczynski also stated that the reason for the purchase of a 2013 instead of trading in on a used ambulance has to do with the costly problems of an older chassis and diesel. A vote passed for the purchase of a 2013 Road Rescue ambulance for a cost not to exceed $163,810.00. An auction will be held to sell the ambulance to he replaced and there will be rebates connected to the purchase. Prior to extending the temporary lieutenant appointment of Lt. Rick Kraus, who has been filling in for a lieutenant on sick leave, for a maximum of 60 calendar days, Chief Styczynski commented that Kraus was doing a very good job. Lt. Rick Kraus will return to firefighting after his stint as temporary lieutenant.

Mayor Patrick Kitching reported that new poles and lights are lighting the way on Pulaski Road. Christmas decorations have been received and Public Works will be dressing the poles for the holidays. Kitching stated that repairs are being made at the Village Hall with the installation of new electronic door locks on all doors.

Meeting postscript: The Board of Trustees agreed to advertise for bids for the purchase of one new 2013 Vermeer wood chipper to replace the current 1990 Wood Chuck Diesel Chipper. Trustees also approved requests in regard to the Speedway, LLC gas station located at 12700 S. Pulaski; The Village will provide 32 vending stickers to replace the stickers that were affixed to the old gasoline pumps and to refer a changing in zoning from B-1 to B-3. The B-3 zoning district is intended to be applied to large sites that have primary access to major streets. It may also be used along streets to accommodate retail and service use types that are not allowed in B1 and B2 districts.

Marist to hold Christmas Celebration

Marist High School will hold its seventh annual Christmas celebration. A Very Marist Christmas, on Saturday, December 7, 2013, from 6pm to 11pm at Chateau Busché, 11535 S. Cicero Ave., Alsip, IL, 60803.

This popular event has undergone a few changes this year, including a new venue and several exciting activities. Tickets are $50 in advance and $60 at the door. Admission includes a buffet dinner, entertainment, wine and beer. A cash bar for mixed drinks will be available. This event is for adults 21 and over only.

There will an interactive dj providing music, themed rooms, raffles, split the pot, and live entertainment throughout the night. Marist's Parents Club has been planning this event for several months, and has u memorable night in store for all who attend.

To purchase tickets, visit http://www.maristinsider.net/maristchristmas or call 773-881-5300.

OL tables health insurance for officials until further discussion takes place

by Matt Mayer

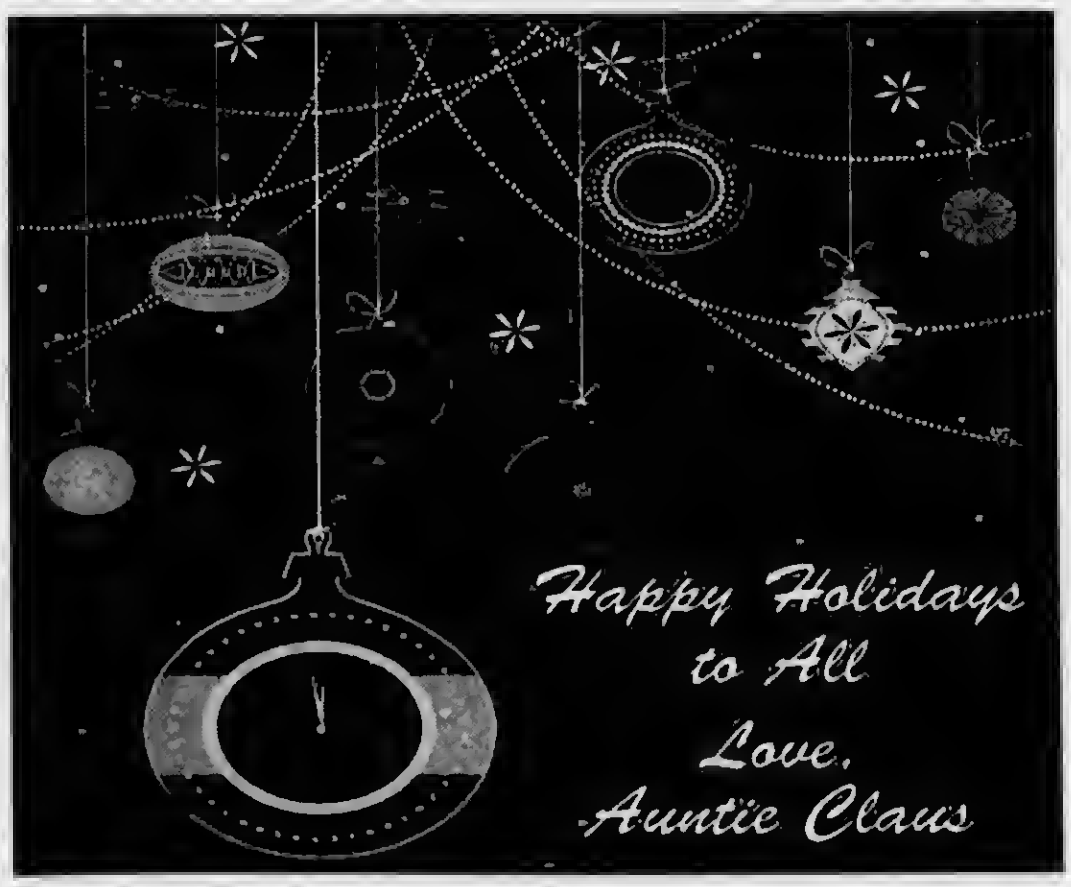
Officials at the Oak Lawn Board of Trustees meeting tabled and discussed a proposal by Trustee Tim Desmond at the Oct 22 Board meeting calling for the elimination of health insurance for board members, calling it "shared sacrifice". Trustee Mike Carberry (D-6) said there's going to be a lot of discussion that needs to take place. We need to get everyone's input - this is an overall compensation package and health benefits are a major cost," said Carberry "This needs to be discussed before we draft an ordinance. Part of the proposal will focus on a proposal which would allow the trustees to purchase health insurance if it is no longer offered by the village," said Carberry.

Village Attorney Patrick Connelly said, "I would like to hear some direction from you guys on the board on what you think. I have explored whether or not the repeal of health care benefits would take place after a board members term, said Connelly. "There seems to be a gray area in the law that might allow benefits to be repealed at the end of the fiscal year" said Connelly.

Trustee Tim Desmond (D-1) joined the village health insurance after winning election in April. Trustee Alex Olejniczak reiterated that he doesn't plan on participating in the village health insurance plan in the next fiscal year. Also Mayor Sandra Bury reiterated what she said at the previous meeting that she does not take her salary as liquor commissioner, which is comparable to the cost of her insurance.

Other highlights: Police Chief Michael Murray gave a presentation titled "The Gift of Preparedness", a joint venture between Christ Hospital, Walgreens and the Village of Oak Lawn, which will bring down the cost of weather radios to residents.. "Grant money from Christ hospital was used to create a discount coupon for residents to use at Walgreens to purchase radios at a greatly reduced cost. This enables us, along with the new tornado sirens installed around the village, to move forward with a safer Oak Lawn," said Murray.

An adequate amount of coupons will be available for each trustee's district from Dec. 2-6. Coupons will be available at the Walgreens at 95th street and Cicero Avenue beginning Dec. 7. Additional information will soon be available on the village website, http://www.oaklawn-il.gov/ and Walgreens website http://www.walgreens.com/ which is currently under reconstruction at the time of this writing. Mayor Bury plans on having an online blog at http://www.mayorbury/.com.



Train station construction to wrap up next month

Construction of the new Metra train station at 159th Street and Cicero Avenue is expected to be completed next month.

"While we were hoping to cut the ribbon this month, construction delays have pushed us back into December." said Mayor Hank Kuspa. "I do realize how frustrating this can be for commuters and we are pushing Metra and the contractor to get the warming shelters up and running as soon as possible."

Over the course of a year, the city has worked diligently with Metra, which owns the train station to keep the construction process moving swiftly. However, the project has encountered some typical construction setbacks.

"Metra's regulations are extremely comprehensive and directly impact the timeline of the construction," said City Administrator Troy Ishler. "Unfortunately, these types of delays and inconveniences are a part of many, if not all, construction projects. We realize that residents and commuters are eager to see the finished product. We are too because the train station is an essential part of our plan to create a dynamic, transit-oriented development in this area."

Once completed, the new train station will have significant architectural details and elongated canopies with prominent columns and integrated landscaping. It will include a warming shelter, bike parking and lockers, restroom facilities, indoor/outdoor seated waiting areas, and a geothermal heating system – one of many environmentally friendly features.

Rep. Lipinski co-sponsors bill to protect Americans from losing existing Health Insurance

U.S. Rep. Dan Lipinski (IL-3) today announced that he is cosponsoring the "If You Like Your Health Plan, You Can Keep it Act" (H.R. 3406), which will change Obamacare and allow insurance companies to continue offering plans to existing customers that the law currently requires them to cancel. Under the bill there is no time limit on how long these plans can be renewed.

"Too many Americans are receiving notices that their health care plan has been cancelled because of Obamacare, despite assurances that you can 'keep your plan if you like it.' This promise should not have been broken," Rep. Lipinski said. "H.R. 3406 does not guarantee that every person will still be offered their plan, but it would overturn the Obamacare requirement that these plans be cancelled at the end of this year. Problems like this are among the reasons I did not vote for Obamacare. Since the passage of the law, I have sponsored, co-sponsored, or voted for more than 20 pieces of legislation to try to make Obamacare work well in the short term, the long term and be fair to all Americans."

To further protect Americans from Obamacare's mismanaged rollout, Rep. Lipinski introduced the Health Care Access Fairness and Penalty Delay Act (H.R. 3425). This commonsense legislation would require the Health and Human Services (HHS) Inspector General to certify when the healthcare.gov website is fully operational. Once the Inspector General certifies that the website is operational, individuals would have at least 90 days to enroll in a health care plan, and the individual mandate's penalties would not commence until 30 days later.

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We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

Dear Editor,

Friday, Nov. 15, 2013, has been designated as School Board Members Day in Illinois, and Community Consolidated School District 146 is joining other districts across the state to thank these community volunteers for their commitment and contributions to our public schools.

School board members serve their communities without monetary compensation to make public education the best it can he for every child. Their policies and oversight guide the District as tough decisions are made on complex educational and social issues that affect the entire community and the lives of individual students.

As community trustees for the schools, school board members have oversight in District 146 for an annual budget of $38 million; 2411 students in grades Prek to 8; more than 400 employees; and five schools.

Each year, the demands become greater for school board members to help lead our community's schools as they prepare students to be productive citizens and the leaders in a 21st century global economy. Without the efforts of school board members, local citizens would have less input into the way schools operate today. This is an excellent example of grassroots democracy and governance.

The least that we can do is to say "thank you" to these volunteers for lending their hands. Their service ensures that decisions about local public schools are made locally by those most familiar with the needs of our community.

The men and women serving Community Consolidated School District 146 are:

Mr. John Malloy, President;
Mrs. Julie Jackson, Vice President;
Mr. Dean Casper, Secretary;
Mr. John (Jack) Carey, member;
Mrs. Amy Connolly, member;
Mrs. Donna Framke, member
Mr. Denis Ryan, member

Sincerely,
Dr. Jeff Stawick
Superintendent of School District 146

Ed McElroy, host of "The Ed McElroy Show", recently interviewed Lauren Brougham Glennon, Senior Associate at Worsek & Vihon, LLP, specializing in Property Tax Law and Former Senator Patrick O'Malley.

That show will air at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, November 19th and again on Tuesday, November 26th on Comcast Channel 19.

McElroy is Past National Commander of Catholic War Veterans, U.S.A.

Pictured left to right are Lauren Brougham Glennon, Ed McElroy and Former Senator Patrick O'Malley.

Join Palos Park for the Village Tree Lighting and Holiday Market Experience

What better way to welcome in the Holiday Season than with neighbors, family, and friends at this new Village event. The Holiday Market will be open Friday, Dec. 6, 2013 from 4 p.m. until 9 p.m. on the Village Green 8901 W. 123rd St. An outdoor heated tent will feature craft and merchandise vendors, beverages, and holiday cheer. Listen to choirs and bells as you shop for holiday gifts and wait for Santa to arrive. Santa and Mayor Mahoney will illuminate the Village tree around 6:45 p.m. Following the official Tree Lighting, Santa will be available for visits and photos. Food vendors will be inside the recreation center lower-level. Outside, you can enjoy Hayrack rides, provided by The Center and a warm bonfire. This event has something for everyone. For additional information, call 708-671-3700 or visit palospark.org.

Orland Township to host Senior Christmas Luncheon

Tickets for Orland Township's Senior Christmas Luncheon are now on sale for both residents and non-residents. The luncheon will be held on Thursday, Dec. 5 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Orland Chateau, 14500 S. La Grange Rd., Orland Park. Tickets are $17 for Township residents and $22 for non-residents, and include a delicious lunch along with dessert and a beverage. Entertainment will be provided by Just Friends, who will blend music and laughter with holiday sing-a-longs and nostalgic stories of Christmas past. Tickets can be purchased at the Orland Township Office, 14807 S. Ravinia Ave., Orland Park during business hours, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Tuesday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

"Orland Township's popular senior luncheons are great social opportunities for the seniors in our community to meet new people and build lasting friendships, all while enjoying live entertainment and tasty food," said Supervisor Paul O'Grady.

Come and see what all the buzz is about for yourself by registering today! To find out more about this event or other events offered by Orland Township, call the Township Office at (708)403-4222.

Is Santa coming to your Mall or Store?
Are you having a Christmas Parade with Santa?
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Advertise call Linda for details at 708-425-1910.

Representative Robert "Rob" Rita

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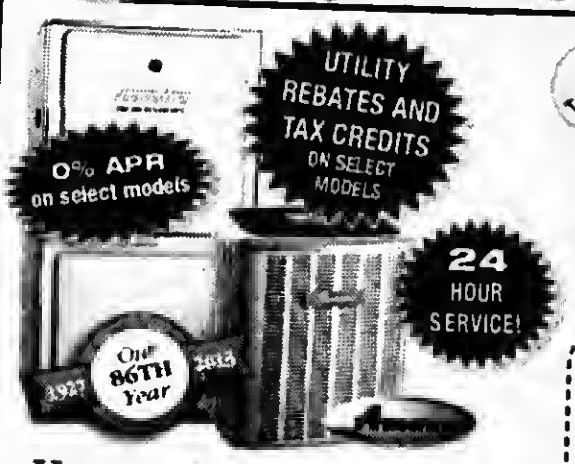

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Out and About

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Alsip

The Alsip Park District is offering a Health Check on Friday, December 27th from 9:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. at the Apollo Recreation Center, 12521 S Kostner Avenue. Over 40 health tests are available for only $50. To schedule an appointment, contact Healthchek at 219-322-7041 or 1-800-915-4583. For test information, visit their website at www.healthchek.net.

Midlothian

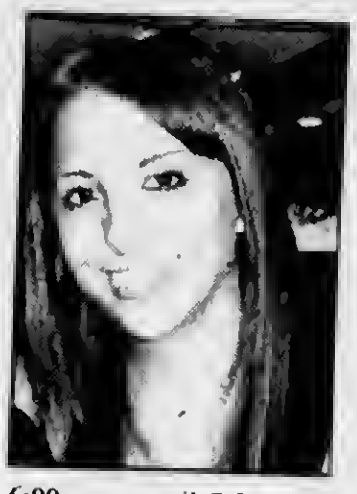
Speed Dating for Seniors will be offered at the Midlothian Park District, 14500 S. Kostner, on Friday, November 22nd from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. for seniors ages 55 and older. At this event, participants will move from table to table for five minutes each in order to acquaint themselves with the other participants. Complimentary appetizers and soft drinks will be served and a cash bar will be made available. Following the speed dating portion, entertainment will be provided. Registration is required and telephone registration will be accepted at 708-371-6191.

Lego Club will take place on Thursday, December 12th from 4:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. The Midlothian Public Library, 14701 S. Kenton Avenue, invites children ages 4 & up to drop in and build with legos that will be provided. No registration.

Blue Island

Calumet Township and the Greater Food Depository have joined forces to provide those 55 and over with a free food market on Thursday, December 12th. Each participant will receive a bag of fresh produce and other basic food items. Examples: produce, rice, beans, cereal, canned goods, and canned meats. Please contact the Community Center at 708-388-6606 for more information.

Adult and youth guitar lessons are taking place at the Blue Island Park District, 12804 South Highland Avenue, on Wednesdays now through December 18th. Youth class time goes from 4:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. and adult class time goes from



6:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. For more information, please call 708-385-3304.

Crestwood

Beginner Yoga will be offered at the Crestwood Recreation and Wellness Center, 5331 W. 135th Street, for a three week class beginning December 9th from 6:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. or from 7:15 p.m. until 8:15 p.m. for $18 for resident and $21 for non-resident. For more information, please call 708-371-4810.

Oak Forest

American Mahjong will be meeting on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. at the Bremen Township Senior Café, 15350 S. Oak Park Avenue. Teams are now forming and for more information, please call 708-687-8220.

The Oak Forest Park District, is offering a Christmas Craft Fair on Sunday, December 8th from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the Oak Forest Park District, 15601 Central Avenue. Shop for holiday gifts ranging from: doll clothes, crafts, and decorations from over 50 crafters and vendors. For more information, please call 773-934-9881.

Join a Winter Adult Volleyball League at the Oak Forest Park District, 15601 Central Avenue, with co-ed teams on Fridays and Sundays this winter and women only on Mondays. For more information, please call Kirstin at 708-687-7270 ext. 132.

Tinley Park

Calls from Santa will be taking place through the Tinley Park Park District. The Park District has made special arrangements for children age 4-10 to receive a call from Santa Claus. The calls will be made from December 4th to December 20th between 3:00 p.m. -7:00 p.m. at Santa's convenience. Participants must register at the Park District office, 8125 W. 171 Street, now through December 1st by completing one of Santa's special calling forms.

Chicago Ridge

Zumba Abs Class will be taking place at Freedom Park Activity Center, 10400 Oxford Avenue, from November 4th through December 9th. Students will be required to bring their own mats for the floor exercises. For more information, please call 708-423-7753.

Worth

The Worth Public Library, 11500 S. Beloit, is proud to host a free program on Sunday, December 1st. Join the Legacy Girls as they entertain with holiday songs from the "Andrews Sisters". Please call and reserve your spot at 708-448-7080. The event begins at 2:00 p.m. and seating will open at 1:30 p.m.

Elf the Musical will be taking place at the Worth Park District, 11500 Beloit Avenue, on Monday, December 2nd at 8:30 p.m. For more information, please call 708-448-7080.

Bridgeview

Adults 55 and older are invited to mix, mingle and have fun the first Monday of each month for Senior Game Day at the Bridgeview Park District, 8100 South Beloit. The next free game day will take place on December 2nd with the theme of Holiday Magic. For more information, please call 708-594-1818.

Justice

Are you over 55 years of age and are interested in being active? If so, you can register to join the Justice Park District's new Club Active. To join you must be at least 55 years of age and register by filling out a short application you can obtain by visiting the Justice Community Center on 7747 South Oak Grove Avenue, or call 708-458-1370 for a mailed copy.

Oak Lawn

Bailey's Crossing Dog Park, 9910 S. Melvina, is offering a Memorial Brick Program. The bricks are 4" x 8" and can be purchased for $75. There is a limit of two (2) lines of 13 characters per line (including spaces) per brick. A form along with more information can be found online at. For more information, please call Denise Iwinski at 708-857-2200.

Hickory Hills

Saint Patricia, 9000 South 86th Avenue, will host a Holiday Craft and Vendor show on Sunday, November 24th from 7:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. in the Parish Center with free admission. For information, email Elizabethszwajnos@lewis.edu or call 773-712-0891.

Wine Tasting will be offered at Saint Patricia, 9000 South 86th Avenue, on Friday, December 6th beginning at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are $35 each, including $5 voucher toward purchase for the holidays. Limited Seating, call the Rectory at 708-598-5222 or email peg.lauth@comcast.net.

Orland Park

Sportsplex Turkey Shoot will be taking place on Sunday, November 24th at 2:00 p.m. at Orland Park Sportsplex, 11351 W. 159th Street. One parent and one child per team and mini-basketballs and mini-hoops will be used for younger ages. Teams of two may register at the Recreation Registration Office, 14600 S. Ravinia Avenue. For more information, please call 708-403-7275.

Palos Hills

Cinderella's Holiday Ball, a Father-Daughter Dance, will take place on Friday, December 6th from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at the Palos Hills Community Center, 8455 W. 103rd Street, for $25 a couple, $15 for each additional adult and $10 each additional child. Princesses and their dads, grandpas or gentlemen in their life are invited to meet Cinderella, Snow White and Belle at the Royal Holiday Ball. For more information, please call 708-430-4500.

Palos Park

Local Concert Musician, Jason Nichoff, will be performing at the Palos Park Library, 12330 Forest Glen Blvd. on Saturday, November 23rd. For more information, please call the library at 708-448-1530.

Palos Heights

Waddles Winter Wonderland is scheduled to take place on Saturday, December 14th from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at the Palos Heights Parks and Recreation Department, 6601 W 127th Street. Everyone will get the chance to meet Santa himself as well as get a family picture with him. This event is free and all ages are welcome. For more information, please call 708-361-1807.

Happy Thanksgiving

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This week in Evergreen Park

Sounds of the Season Concert

Tickets for the Deeember I eoncert of the City Lights Orehestra (7pm at MHR) are available at the Community Center. Tickets are free, but must be pieked up prior to the concert. Limit of four per family. Call (708) 229-3373 for more info.

Leaf Pickup

Residents are encouraged to put leaves in green compost containers, whieh get pieked up every week until early Deeember. Exeess leaves can be put on the curb and will be pieked up by the Street Department. Large braneh pickup will continue on an as-needed basis; please call the Village Hall at (708) 422-1551.

Next week is recycling pickup week!

A Dickens Christmas!

Coming to Evergreen Park (Cirele Park) on Saturday, Dec 7th! 2pm-7pm

Sounds of Christmas. Train rides, Santa and Live Reindeer, many events!

Looking to donate an Evergreen tree?

The Village of Evergreen Park is looking for an Evergreen tree which will be the BIG Christmas tree at Circle Park for the Tree Lighting Ceremony on December 7. If you wish to donate an Evergreen tree from your yard, please call the Street Department at (708) 422-1551: we will eome out and assess the tree and, if feasible, remove it for you!

From The Offiee of Citizens Services

Luncheon and Program - State of the Village (Mayor Sexton) Thursday, November 21 11:30am Cost $6 Senior Center, 9547 S. Homan Ave. Tiekets must be purchased by Monday 11/18.

Chieago Christmas Lights - One Day Trip

Tuesday, December 10 Cost $82 Depart 1:30pm, Return 7:30 pm Visit ChristkindImarket at Daley Plaza; luneh/early dinner at Lawry's. Guided tour of the Magnifieent Mile Lights Festival.

Mini-Bus and Meals on Wheels Services available through the Office of Citizen Services.

For more information on any of the above events, call (708) 422-8776.

Reereation Department Happenings

Programs Registration continues at the Rec Department (3450 W. 97th Street) Mon-Fri. 9am-5pm; Sat. 9am-Noon.

To register, or get more information on Rec Dept programs; please eall (708) 229-3373 or eheek out their page on Facebook!

Youth Commission

The Youth Center is open Tuesday to Friday, 3pm-6pm. A variety of activities, games and social activities are available for youths from 5th grade through High School. Call the Evergreen Park Youth Commission for additional information and opportunities. This is a fun, safe plaee to be!

Open Gym Nights

Fridays (6pm - 8pm) at the Activity Center, 3220 W. 98th Street

For grades 5 to 8, Evergreen Park residents only ($4 per person)

Community Events

Evergreen Park Library is hosting many great events for residents of all ages! Take a peek at http://www.ever

Evergreen Park Girls Softball Online Registration!

Yes, you ean register online now at http://www.epgirlssoftball.com/. Payment is not done online, the website is there simply to get your child registered. Early bird discounts are available!

Senior Logan Landers at the annual Burbank remembranee eeremony reeiting the Pledge of Allegiance.

St Laurence student participates in Veterans Ceremony

St. Laurence High School senior Logan Landers participated in the annual Veterans Day Ceremony held at the Veterans Memorial in Burbank on recently. Landers led the gathered officials and attendees in the saying of the Pledge of Allegiance as part of the touching ceremony.

Landers is an aetive member of the student body. He is a four-year member of the Comedy Club, is a Computer Lab Assistant, a Student Council homeroom representative, and a member of the bowling team. He is a graduate of St. Patricia School in Hickory Hills, and is a resident of Burbank.

For additional information on St. Laurenee High School, located at 5556 W. 77th Street in Burbank, the place "Where Leadership Begins," please eontact the Office of Admissions, at 708-458-6900, extension 252.

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The Great Christmas Light Fight

by Kelly White

With an extravagantly decorated home for the holiday season, one Tinley Park family has a chance to win $50,000 thanks to the new ABC television series, "The Great Christmas Light Fight", airing this December.

After the Kowalczyk family's home was published in Mary Edsey's book, The Best Christmas Decorations in Chicagoland: Your Guide to More Than 200 Spectacular Holiday Displays, ABC producers soon contacted the family to participate in their upcoming television series. This delightful book takes readers on a thoroughly entertaining tour of Chicagoland in all its Christmas finery. From the storytelling windows at Marshall Field's (now Macy's), drawing admirers from hundreds of miles away, to the most elaborate light show in a neighborhood cul-de-sac, The Best Christmas Decorations in Chicagoland guides you to more than 200 of the finest annual holiday displays in the greater Chicago area.

"We have been decorating our family home for a very long time every year for the Christmas season," Dominick Kowalczyk stated he remembers his home always decorated for the holidays throughout his 30 years in Tinley Park. Their home in Mary Edsey's book was recognized as one of the "best and brightest" homes in the Chicagoland area.

"The Great Christmas Light Fight" is a new competition series in which 20 families across America decorate their homes to the extreme for Christmas in just 21 days, with a total of $250,000 in prizing. There will be a total of five episodes aired, featuring four families per episode with $50,000 won each week. The 20 families were chosen through an extensive nationwide search based on their previous elaborate Christmas light displays, incredible choreography and over-the-top Christmas decorations and designs.

"I think with a one out of four chance, our chances are pretty good at winning," Kowalczyk said proudly. His family home features a wide variety of decorations, including: plastic figurines, inflatables, lights and much more.

"Everything also goes to music," he added.

A lot of time is vested into decorating their home for the Christmas season for the Kowalczyk family; however, they feel it is well worth it. "We are crazy busy when it comes to putting up all of the decorations, but our family and friends come over to help and it is always a really good time," Kowalczyk said.

The show will air at 8 p.m. on Dec. 9, 16 and 23, featuring back-to-back episodes on the last two nights. Michael Moloney and Sabrina Soto, both from "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition," will serve as judges for the series. The Kowalczyk's episode will air on Dec. 23.

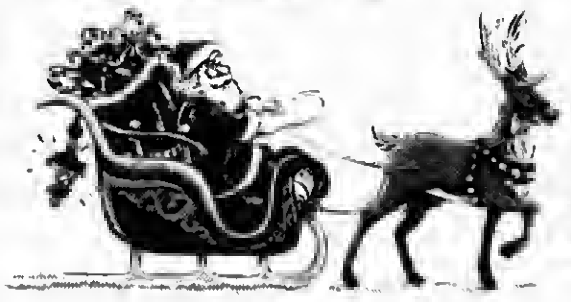
Blessings for Bill

Join the family of Bill Cullina on Sunday, November 24th from 12-4pm at the Chieftain Bar in Worth: Bill was diagnosed with cancer in 1994, recovered and had a relapse in 2011 and again in 2013. Friends and Family of of Bill are hosting a community fundraiser to assist with medical costs and support for the family. Admission is $10 for adults, $5 for children 12 and under. The Chieftain is located at 6906 w 111th Street. For more information, please call 708-925-4689 or find us on facebook at "Blessings for Bill".

The Blue Island Park District presents

LUNCH WITH SANTA

Join us for an afternoon of holiday fun and a delectable meal. Watch as Santa's Helper's turn the Memorial Park Field House into Santa's Workshop. Build and craft ornaments and gifts for loved ones all while enjoying Christmas cheer. Paid Participants will also get a printed photo with Santa Claus and a many keepsakes of the day.



Saturday, December 7th
12:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Memorial Park Banquet Hall
12804 S. Highland Ave., Blue Island
All ages welcome
$15 Pre-registration ($20 at the door)
Program # 280225

HELP US WELCOME SANTA CLAUS!!
Santa will be arriving at Blue Island on December 7th and his first stop is Memorial Park. Join the crowd that will welcome Santa Claus and be one of the first to have their Christmas wish list delivered. How will Santa arrive? You'll just have to come and see for yourself.

SANTA'S ARRIVAL TO BLUE ISLAND
December 7th, 11:30am at Memorial Park Upper Pavilion, 12804 S. Highland Ave. Blue Island, IL
No charge to join.
Can't Make it out? Visit the Santa House at Hart Park from Dec 13th through Dec 15th.
Visiting hours available online.

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OPEN HOUSE DATE
Saturday, December 7, 2013
10:00 am - Noon

LOURDES HALL CAMPUS FOR YOUNG WOMEN
1040 West 32nd Place, Chicago, IL 60608

OPEN HOUSE DATE
Wednesday, November 20, 2013
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

ENTRANCE EXAM FOR ALL STUDENTS
Saturday, January 11, 2014 at 8:00am
Institute Campus, 3434 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL
Please bring $25 test fee and No. 2 pencils

312.842.7355
www.dls.org

OPEN HOUSE

MOUNT ASSISI ACADEMY

Wednesday, December 4th
6:00 - 8:00 pm

MOUNT ASSISI ACADEMY 13860 Main Street, Lemont, IL 60439 | www.mtassisi.org

Mount Assisi Academy prepares high school girls to be the next generation of Catholic women leaders. Our gorgeous sixty acre campus is quiet, safe and picturesque. Cutting edge technology is integrated throughout our core curriculum with each girl working on her own tablet. Come be part of our family, the Mount Assisi Academy Family. **New this year, we are thrilled to announce the unveiling of...**

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OPEN HOUSE
Wednesday, December 4th
6:00 – 8:00 pm

SHADOW DAYS
Any Monday or Friday through December 13th

ENTRANCE EXAM
Saturday, January 11th, 2014, 8:00 am

Marna Isaacs, Enrollment Manager
630-257-7844 ext. 719
misaacs@mtassisi.org

(L-R) Julia Bugaj, Kenneth Schlesser, Azziza Hasan, Kristina Balboa, Meghan Jean, Edgar Cahue, Troy Walker, Pastor Mark Birkholz.

OLCHS Collects 55 meal baskets

Oak Lawn Community High School students and staff collected 55 full meal baskets for the annual Student Council Thanksgiving Food Drive. Each meal basket included numerous items such as canned fruits and vegetables, cornbread mix, juice, and a $20 grocery store gift certificate. The baskets were donated to food pantries at Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church in Oak Lawn and Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Burbank.

Five or more baskets were collected by the following teachers or departmental offices: the Deans' Office, Mr. Brett Habas, Mrs. Jennifer Jepsen, and Mrs. Jodi Newton. Student Council will host an after school pizza party for these students and staff members for extraordinary generosity.

For the first time ever, there was a tie for the winner! The prestigious Turkey Chalice, an engraved vase that is showcased in the teacher's classroom until the next food drive, will be shared by Mrs. Tracy Hochstadt's English Advanced Placement and Mr. Tim Sidlow's English III Honors classes for each donating 11 full meal baskets.

Last call for flu shots at Orland Township

Orland Township is offering three FINAL flu shot clinics of the season at the township office, 14807 S. Ravinia Avenue, on Monday, December 9 and Wednesday, December 11 from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. and Tuesday, December 10 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Vaccines for residents 19 and older are available for $20. Children 18 years of age and younger who are either Medicaid-eligible (includes All Kids recipients), Native American (American Indian, Alaskan Native) or uninsured may receive a vaccination free of charge. Children 18 and under who are not eligible for a free shot can still receive a flu shot for a discounted rate of $15.

Residents 65 and over with Medicare Part B are eligible to receive the immunization free of charge. A Medicare Part B card must be presented at the time of vaccination. Those with an HMO/Medicare plan are not eligible for a free vaccination and should visit their primary care physician.

Proof of residency is required. Orland Township boundaries include Orland Hills, Orland Park (east of Will Cook Road and south of 135th Street), Tinley Park (west of Harlem and north of 183rd Street), and unincorporated Orland Park.

Anyone six months of age and older should get a flu shot, but it's even more important for some people to get vaccinated. These people include those who are at high risk of developing complications like pneumonia if they catch the flu. These high-risk individuals include the following:

- Those with medical condition like asthma, diabetes and chronic lung disease of those who live with or care for individuals with these medical conditions
- Pregnant women
- People 65 years and older

For additional information, please call (708) 403-4222 or visit http://www.orlandtwp.org/.

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Cash bar will be available starting at 10:30 am.
- Cup of Cream of Chicken Rice Soup
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- Sage Gravy
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- Andouille Sausage Stuffing
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- Pumpkin Bread Pudding OR Banana Cream Pie Parfait

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Actors included in the picture are Cheryl Graeff, Jennifer Baker, Alex Stage, Stef Tovar, Kirsten Fitzgerald, Leah Karpel, Keith Kupferer

Plays for Review
by Annette Dixon

Director Gary Griffin directs ***Appropriate*** which is about inheritance and what occurs when the family cannot agree with one another in solving the delemma that occurs between them. The playwright wrote a beautiful piece of work with many sentiments of family including love, anger, family feuds, past mistakes, regrets, bitterness and aloofness. The story was written so that you were inside the family surroundings listening to their decisions, arguments, and hassels with on another.

You can see ***Appropriate*** at Vietory Gardens Biograph Theatre, 2433 N. Lincoln Ave. until December 8.

Fireside Christmas in Fort Atkinson was conceived and directed by Ed Flesch. This year many changes were made and they were great changes.

Every year for 50 years, the Klopcie Family presem a religious theme, which the audiences anticipates, will he seen in the second half of the show.

So get your groups together and eat and enjoy your delicious meal at the Fireside Theatre for the holidays. The outstanding 28 cast members performing the singing, dancing and their beautiful costumes and special set design are all featured in Fort Atkinson, WI until December 22, 2013.

To order tickets call 1-800-477-9505 or go online to FiresideTheatre.com

Paulus

I don't pretend to be a religious scholar nor do I believe that the truths are told in theatrical plays. What I do know is that the playwright, Motti Lerner, used the Jewish History and Christan belief and he therefore came out with a fantastic, believable play.

He did wonders with the vast information that he acquired and narrowed the suhstance to present the audience with a great understanding of the 1st Century.

What I found lacking was very little information or words of Paulus coming from the epistles. Looking back at the play the reason may be he wasn't writing at this time. The time frame is between 58 CE and 64 CE. for the play.

The question still lies with me as to whether Paul really started the new Christian religion because of his strong belief in redemption, or did Jesus Christ follow the Judaism as he promised to redeem us.

There was a big disernment between the risen Christ and Paul. Paul was sure he was not going to live his life as a Jew, hy following all 613 commandments of Jewish law, so as he preached to Gentiles and those who did not know the Jewish laws, he was comfortable preaching ahout the risen Christ heing our Messiah.

He traveled from Jerusalem to Damascus to Antiock, Tarsus, Colossae, Ephesus, Corinth, Thessalonica, Phillippi preaching the word of God and was tried by the Roman High Court, convicted of heresy and beheaded in Rome.

This was a powerful play and Silk Road Rising should come home with quite a few Jeff Awards on this one. The cast Daniel Cantor, Torrey Hanson, Bill McGough, Dana Black, Anthony DiNicola, Carolyn Hoerdemann, Glenn Stanton, D'Wayne Taylor all were excellent.

The play closes on Dec. 15th. Call 312-857-1234 or www.silkroadrising.org.

The Elegy Project is proud to announce the Chicago premiere of Elegy, until December 1, written by Ron Hirsen and directed by Dennis Zacek at the Richard Christiansen Theater at Victory Gardens Biograph, 2433 Lincoln Ave. The performance schedule is Thursdays and Fridays at 7:30 p.m., Saturdays at 5 and 8:30 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. There is no performance Thursday, Nov. 28 and an added performance Sunday, Dec. 1 at 7:00 p.m. Ticket prices $42 for the regular run.

Tickets are available at victorygardens.org, elegyproject.org or 773.871.3000.

Elegy, a moving story that weaves through time and location, from Kristallnacht in Berlin to contemporary New York, dramatizes the perpetual torment of Holocaust survivors, the anguish felt by their Jewish American children and the conflict that occurs with the clash between the two generations.

Detroit '67

Coco Elyssis (Bunny); Kelvin Roston, Jr. (Sly) Background Kamal Angelo Bolden (Lank); Tyla Ahercrumbie gather together to discuss doing business in the same old way or furthering their lifestyle to the betterment of the family.

One family's life under the duress of the race riots of 1967 in Detroit. Ron OJ Parson, Director and resident Artist at Court Theater did a fantastic joh with this production. Not pictured is outstanding actress Cassandra Bissell, Caroline, making her dehut at Northlight Theater in Skokie. She has appeared for six seasons at Peninsula Players in Door County, WI.

Detroit 67 can be seen at Northlight Theatre, 9501 Skokie Blvd. in Skokie until Decemher 15, 2013.

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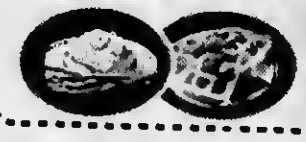
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Crafters Corner & More

To advertise in Crafters Corner, or Crafters Wanted, call Linda for more information at 708-425-1910.

Holiday Craft & Vendor Fair
Sunday, December 8th
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Oak Forest Park District
15601 S. Central Ave.
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6111 West 175th Street, Tinley Park
10:00 am to 2:00 pm
Admission: Adult $6, Kids 6 to 12 $2
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For more information please contact Jim
(262)-366-1314 or Unlevents1@aol.com
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Lets Recycle Annual Garage Sale

The Evergreen Park High School Athletic Booster's will be having their "Let's Recycle" Annual Garage Sale & Antique Indoor Market. It will be held on Saturday, February 8, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at 9901 S. Kedzie in both gyms. A table is $25.00 or 2 for $40.00.

All are Welcome!! Suggested donation of a $1.00 includes raffle ticket for door prize. All proceeds benefit the athletes.

For additional information call Chris at 708-407-3189 or email Lkonley@evergreenpark.org

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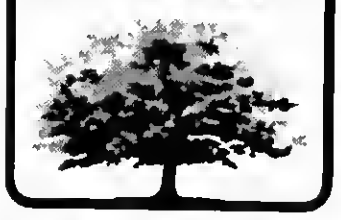

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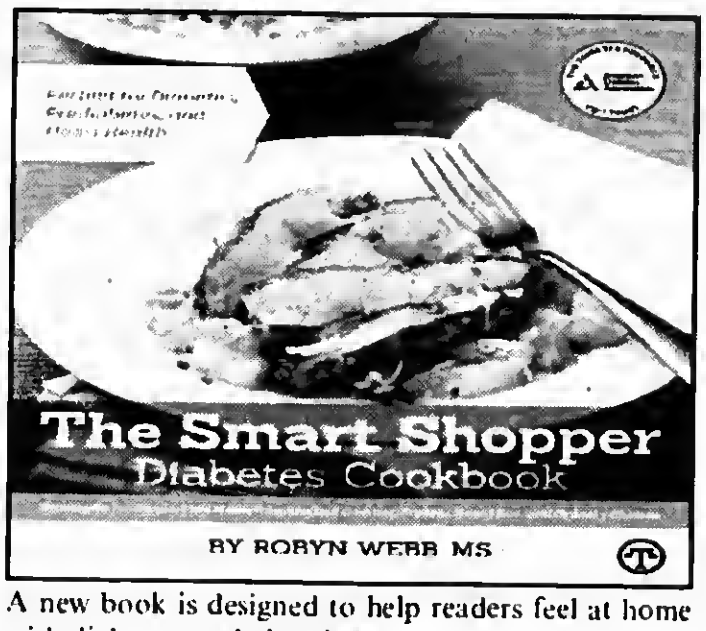


A new book is designed to help readers feel at home with diabetes meal planning.

Shopping and menus for those with diabetes

(NAPSA)-A new book shows readers how to incorporate new and convenient fresh and shelf-stable foods from nearly any grocery store into amazingly easy meals that meet diabetes nutrition guidelines.

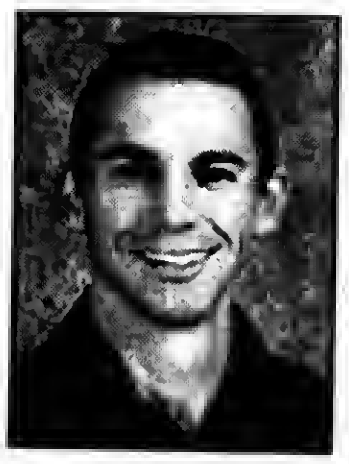
"The Smart Shopper Diabetes Cookbook: Strategies for Stress-Free Meals from the Deli Counter, Freezer, Salad Bar, and Grocery Shelves," by award-winning cookbook author, nutritionist, and food editor of Diabetes Forecast(r), Robyn Webb, MS, is packed with 125 new recipes. They're designed to be quick and easy and are based on a simple concept-let fresh, packaged and minimally processed foods, such as those found in the deli, freezer or salad bar sections of the grocery store, do the work for you.

There's also a complete five-day menu planner for three different calorie levels: 1,500 calories per day, 1,800 calories per day and 2,000 calories per day, including all nutritional information.

With healthful cooking suggestions, recipes, menus, and grocery shopping tips, "The Smart Shopper" gives readers the tools they need to finally feel completely at home with diabetes meal planning.

It's available at bookstores or at www.ShopDiabetes.org.

Tragic loss in School District 146



It is with great regret that Community Consolidated School District 146 informs you of the death of Mr. Mark Reilly.

Mr. Reilly was employed as a fifth grade teacher for nine years at Memorial School and CCSD146. He was well liked and respected by all, and his untimely passing has profoundly touched all that knew him. His presence will be sorely missed.

We take solace in the good and lasting work that Mr. Reilly did in his too brief lifetime. The results of his outstanding teaching and his influences on his students will always be remembered. The people whose lives he touched are monuments to Mr. Reilly's life.

The D146 family is deeply saddened and our heartfelt sympathy is extended to his family.

Crisis support for students and staff will be available today and will be available next week if the need arises. When service information is known, we will communicate it to our D146 family.

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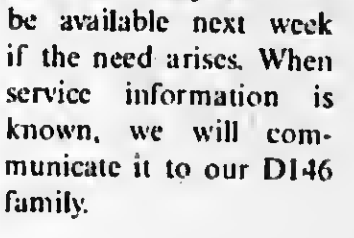

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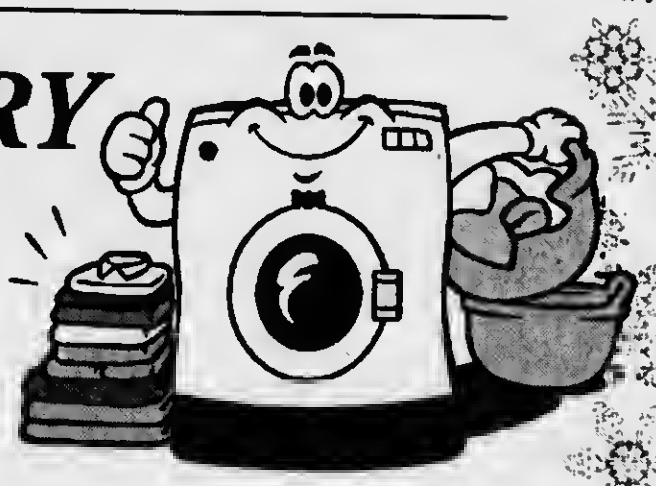

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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 40 | Number 11 | December 3, 2013

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

Oak Lawn approves outsourcing 911 dispatch services

by Matt Mayer

The council chamber was packed with supporters and 911 dispatchers and their attorney at the Nov. 26 Oak Lawn Board of Trustees meeting. The Metropolitan Alliance of Police (MAP) Union Attorney, Ronald Cicinelli, led a plea to retain the 911-dispatch center. He said the union has been bargaining with this chapter for over 5 years and the union made serious efforts to compromise with the village. The union is not insensitive to the fiscal problems of the community but at the same time it would he irresponsible for the union to agree to $369.000 in concessions over the next four years. For the 20 dispatchers this equates to $18.500 per person. That's an incredible amount of money for this chapter to absorb.

As individuals the MAP board has asked the Mayor to have a board committee meet with the union in an attempt to reach a compromise. "I'm making one final plea on behalf of the entire chapter behind me and all of the family, friends and residents that are here to support this 911 communications center. One final plea to table the voting and meet with us with a board appointed committee," said Cicinelli.

Lorie, a 20 year 911 dispatcher followed Cicinelli and addressed the board saying that their current collective bargaining agreement expires September 30, 2014. According to our MAP attorney there is a very strong likelihood of the union filing an unfair labor practices against the village and pursue legal action. This dispatch center dispatches for Evergreen Park, Bridgeview, Burbank, Bedford Park Fire Department and Central Stickney Fire District. 20 dispatchers are fighting from getting outsourced and fighting for their jobs. But the raises continue for the director, three team leaders, and the IT staff," said Loric.

Trustee Bob Streit said Oak Lawn has always been a place where residents could count on their public servants. "When you hear that a crime has occurred you're content to know that the Oak Lawn Police Department can handle the call and the investigation. When you have a loved one who needs emergency care and you call for an ambulance, you know as a resident that the best-trained individuals will response quickly and responsibly. When it's a matter of life and death, there isn't anyone that I want coming to my home other than the Oak Lawn Fire Department. Both of these departments rely on the people behind the scenes

The people standing in the audience serve a more important function. They're the men and women that work as 911 emergency operators. They are the people that take the call of burglaries in progress, home invasions, robberies, or a fire or your need for the paramedics to come to your house," said Streit.

"These people work hard to make sure the police officers have back up on a robbery call. The system has been working for years we don't need to be making changes by privatizing this service and taking a chance that the service will be the same", said Streit.

Trustee Terry Vorderer, a former Oak Lawn Police Officer, said he has agonized over this vote. "I would never vote in the interest of dollars that would affect public safety but I promised my constituents we wouldn't raise taxes so I have to live up to my promise and vote yes to outsource."

Village Manager Larry Deetjen said outsourcing the 911 dispatch services could save the village $1 million over a two-year period. Following the pleas and discussions, Trustee Tim Desmond made a motion to approve a professional telecommunications services agreement with Norcomm Public Safety Communications. The contract was approved 4-2: Trustee's Bob Streit and Carol Quinlan dissented. Information regarding Norcomm may be obtained at www.norcom.org/.

Queen of Peace honors staff member as Heart of School

Each year the faculty and staff vote to name one person the heart of the school. This year the overwhelming vote went to Sherry Webb. Sherry is our administrative assistant and is one of the women who manage the front office. She takes care of office work as well as the students.

Mrs. Webb checks on students who don't feel well and makes the calls home. The girls flock to tell her their exciting news or even their complaints. She listens to everyone and does what she can to help out. She's also a great help with the faculty and staff, always willing to lend a helping hand when someone needs it. This year's choice for Heart of the School was well deserved!

Justice approves contract with Moraine Valley Community College

by Jan Glaz

Trustee Henry Oszakiewski introduced a motion that carried for a contract between Moraine Valley Community College and the Village of Justice on November 25th. The contract provides for consulting work from Moraine Valley on Economic Development for the Village. Key factors pertaining to the collaboration include: Consultants who will work with a newly created Village Committee to help develop a website, as well as a PR marketing campaign to showcase the Village and to promote development to prospective developers and businesses: marketing materials and resources will be discussed with a goal of maintaining a Professional Marketing Image; business attraction and retention programs will be developed along with community initiatives; and identifying economic clusters, such as retail, commercial, manufacturing, and services and then learning how to expand these clusters. Trustee Oszakiewski invited interested, qualified residents and business owners and managers to consider posting their name to become one of the five Village of Justice Economic Development Commissioners.

Village Clerk Kathleen Svoboda shared information in regard to Mental Health First Aid and an 8 hour no cost First Aid course being offered at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 11th, at Lyons Township Mental Commission 6404 Joliet Road, Countryside, IL. 708.352.2992. The First Aid course teaches a 5-step action plan to offer initial help to people with the signs and symptoms of a mental illness or in a crisis. The Lyons Township Mental Health Commission states "Take the course, save a life, strengthen your community."

Meeting Post Script: Do you know the risks to your home? Trustee Oszakiewski announced that he, Trustee Sue Small and Mayor Kris Wasowicz will attend the Cook County Multi-Jurisdictional All Hazards Mitigation Plan Public Meeting. The Meeting is open to all residents of Cook County and all will find the answer to that question and others on December 12th in the Village of Westchester, Village Hall Board Room at 10300 West Roosevelt Road, in Westchester from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. Computer workstations set up at the meeting will show you which natural hazards affect your property and how to reduce the risks and how to more quickly recover from hazards. Additional Information is posted on the Cook County website: www.cookcountyhomelandsecurity.org/hazard-mitigation-plan.

Village View

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 23 | December 3, 2013

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Mayor reveals history of Tinley Park water

by Jan Glaz

In anticipation of adopting an Ordinance Authorizing a Water Supply Agreement with the Village of Oak Lawn, Mayor Edward J. Zabrocki revealed the historical origin of Tinley Park's water supply and important facts in regard to the proposed $171 million improvements to the infrastructure that delivers the water obtained from Lake Michigan via the City of Chicago and the transmission line that runs from the Village of Oak Lawn to Tinley Park, New Lenox; Mokena; Oak Forest; and Orland Park. At the November 19th Board of Trustees meeting the Mayor said, "We went to Chicago water in 1972, previous to that time we had about 6 or 7 different wells which were spread around town; we began questioning the liability from those wells. In May of 1972 the Village began negotiating with Oak Forest and Orland Park to run a line out from Oak Lawn; Oak Lawn purchased its water from Chicago." That line is now over 40 years old and has a single water main insufficient to supply the expanding communities. By the year 2030 the peak demand in use is projected to rise from the present 55 million gallons of water per day, to around 101 million gallons per day. The new infrastructure will have a looped system with dual redundant feeds, and more efficient pump stations. Tinley Park's portion of the project cost is $32,000,000 (24%) and the reported annual cost impact to residents next year is projected to be approximately $60, of which, 75% is attributed to the increase charged by the City of Chicago. When Agreements with Oak Lawn are approved construction will commence in 2014 with the entire system improvements completed by 2018. And when the system upgrades are completed, the estimated impact for Village residents will be approximately $9 per month for the average water user. "Tinley Park has one of the lowest water rates in the region... And moreover, the Chicago region as a whole has the lowest water rates in the country," said the Mayor.

Board meeting postscript: Trustees approved the consideration, awarding a contract to SetCom Wireless for a wireless apparatus Intercom System. The only wireless (Bluetooth) system and supplier that allows the driver- operator to move about the area of the vehicle 'tether-free' allowing them to accomplish multiple tasks while maintaining communications between the entire crew. The contract award to SetCom for a wireless apparatus intercom system is at a cost not to exceed $42,260.

Orland Officials forgo monthly paychecks

by Jan Glaz

Effective in December of 2013 Orland Park Mayor, Trustees and Clerk will be paid on a biweekly basis. This item was approved at the Village of Orland Park Board of Trustees meeting on November 18th. The reasoning behind the change is simplification of the Village's payroll processing. In order to make the change from monthly to biweekly an ordinance had to be approved by the Board amending certain ordinances that were previously passed related to the compensation of certain elected officials.

The Board took positive action amending a Village Code - ordinance in regard to several committees. Names have been changed and some committees will be meeting on a different Monday. The new committee names and when they will meet are as follows: On the first Monday of each month, Public Works Committee, Finance and Information Technology Committee. Economic Development Strategy and Community Engagement - On the third Monday of each month: Public Safety Committee. Parks and Recreation Committee, and Development Services. Planning and Engineering.

Also of interest before the meeting adjourned, the Board moved to approve rejecting all Insurance Brokerage Service proposals for Fiscal Year 2014 Liability Insurance received by the village in response to postings on the Village's website, the Southtown Star, and five insurance brokers the Village staff directly notified. Four proposals from qualified firms, including The Horton Group, Arthur J. Gallagher & Co., Assurance Agency, Ltd. and Alliant Insurance Services, Inc. were reviewed. However, based on questions and comments received from potential proposers regarding risk management, the staff determined that more time is required to properly analyze not only the proposals received but also the requirements and for that reason the Board agreed to reject all proposals received and reissue proposal requests during the second quarter 2014. Once 2014 renewal premiums are finalized a contract extension with The Horton Group for 1 year will be brought to the Board for approval. President McLaughlin will appoint Thomas McSharry to the Open Lands Fund Commission.

LIHEAP Energy Assistance

CEDA & Bremen Township Present an Opportunity to Apply for Energy Assistance on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 10am to 2pm at the Bremen Township Senior Center, 15350 Oak Park Ave., Oak Forest. You must qualify and bring specific documents to apply for funds available through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. For details, call (800) 571-CEDA (2332) or Joan at Bremen Township, 708-687-8220, or go to the Bremen Township website: http://www.brementownship.net/

(From left to right) Police Chief Greg Anderson, Officer Mike Lynch, Jr., and Officer Mike Lynch, Sr.

Oak Forest Police Officer receives life-saving award

Oak Forest Police Officer Michael Lynch, Jr. received a life-saving award from Oak Forest Police Chief Greg Anderson, on behalf of the City of Oak Forest, at a recent City Council meeting. Officer Lynch was recognized for saving the life of a two-year-old child earlier this month.

"Due to his quick response and training, Mike was able to save the little girl's life," Anderson said. "His actions are a credit to his professionalism and dedication to this department and community."

While on duty, Officer Lynch and his partner, Officer David Devries, responded to an ambulance call for a baby not breathing. Upon their arrival, the officers found the child lying on the floor in distress – possibly as a result of a seizure. Noticing that the young girl was having trouble breathing, Officer Lynch began CPR – first clearing her airway of vomit and then giving thrusts on her back to dislodge an obstruction in her airway. After several thrusts to her back, Officer Lynch dislodged the obstruction so that the girl could breathe again.

"As we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving, it is fitting to say thank you to all of our officers, especially Mike, who go above and beyond to serve and protect our residents," Anderson added. "In particular, we are grateful that this young girl will be able to celebrate the holiday with her family."

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SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 14 | Number 23 | December 3, 2013

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Palos Heights congratulates Golden Shoes on their 50th anniversary

by Matt Mayer

Mayor Bob Straz announced at the Nov. 19 Palos Heights City Council meeting that Marc Golberg, owner of Golden Shoes, recently received the 2013 Business Champions Award for Entreprenenr/Small Business Person of the Year. This award is sponsored and was presented by Moraine Valley Community College. The City of Palos Heights extends their congratulations to Marc and again acknowledged the 50th anniversary of Golden Shoes, said Straz.

Other highlights: The city council approved the application of an American Express commercial account and authorized Straz to execute the agreement. The transfer of $900,000 from the General Fund to the Capitol Improvement Fund in order to help finance the 2014 capitol improvements for fiscal year 2014 was approved. Ordinances requested by the police department amending a section of the municipal code regarding the possession of cannabis to reflect to state stature as well as amending the municipal code regarding the closing time of parks were also approved.

An ordinance amending Ordinance 0-30-84 of the municipal code was approved. This amendment to the ordinance eliminates the minimum of 20,0000 sq ft required for a special use, which now allows a B-1 special use in the entire 24,000 sq. ft. building at 7110 W. 127th Street.

A contract with PBO and Carmi Builders was approved for the demolition and construction of the bathroom facilities for the hall fields in Community Park pending city review. The only cost to the city for this project is the engineering costs. A contract with Millennium Construction of Illinois, Inc. for the 123rd Street and Harlem pedestrian improvements was approved as well a contract with Davis Concrete for $39,309.21 for the 127th Street sidewalk improvements.

Chicago Ridge considers airing board meetings

by Matt Mayer

Trustee Durkin suggested video taping the board meetings at the Nov. 19 Chicago Ridge Board of Trustees meeting. She said now that we are updating our hardware and software, this might be a perfect time to stream the meeting via the internet.

Mayor Chuck Tokar said he has watched a couple of Oak Lawn meetings. "I've seen that it certainly can turn into a political football. There's a lot of accusations flying back and fourth in Oak Lawn. I certainly wouldn't want that to happen here. In terms of transparency, I don't have a problem with the meeting being aired, whether it's on the internet or TV. Our board meetings are pretty civil," said Tokar.

There's a time and place for everything. "I certainly think people in Oak Lawn apparently think that because they're on television, they have to make speeches or they have to read speeches. I think obviously those things are done for a reason, it's almost like they're in campaign mode," said Tokar. Be that what it may, if the majority of trustees want to do this whether it is on TV or the internet, I'm certainly in favor of transparency, Tokar reiterated. I think the board is in favor of getting prices that sounds like a reasonable thing to do. The board concurred and approved an investigating the costs for streaming the meetings on the internet and the community cable TV channel. A vote is slated to be held on the second meeting in December.

Breakfast with Santa

Santa Claus is coming to town December 14, 9:30am to 11am! Children will also have a morning full of holiday excitement with various holiday craft tables, face painting, and a special visit from Santa Claus. Children will take a magical journey aboard the Polar Express listening to the classic holiday story. Boys and girls will have the opportunity to tell Santa their Christmas wishes. Each child will receive a small treat from Santa. Enjoy a hot breakfast with eggs, sausage, sweets, and more. Bring your camera for precious candid photos. Pre-registration is required by Friday, December 6, 2013. To register call or stop in at Palos Park Recreation 8901 West 123rd Street.Palos Park, IL. (708) 671-3760.

Hosting a holiday evemt? Call Linda at 708-425-1910

Palos Park presents the Village tree lighting and Holiday Market

Friday, December 6, 2013, 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the Village Green and Recreation Center, 8901 West 123rd Street.

What better way to welcome in the Holiday Season than with neighbors, family and friends at this new Village event. As the Holiday Market opens, the grounds fill with the anticipation of Santa's arrival as he and Mayor John Mahoney illuminate the Village Tree. This event has something for everyone. For more information call 708-671-3700 or www.palospark.org/ .

Schedule of Events

Holiday Market opens at 4:00 pm featuring

Outdoor Heated Tent

Holiday Gifts & Favorite Holiday Drinks

Lower Level Recreation Center

Local businesses and food vendors

Village Green

Voting for Community Tree Decorating Contest at 6:00 pm.

Bon Fire & Local Musical Entertainment at 6:45 pm.

Village Green

Santa Arrives & Official Tree Lighting

Hayrack Rides provided by The Center

Visits with Santa

Musichorale presents their 67th Noel Concert

Musichorale, 67th Noel Concert will he 'Twas the Night Before Christmas, director is Jeffery Silhan. On Sunday, December 8, 2013 at 3:20 p.m. at the Trinity Christian College in the Ozinga Auditorium at 6601 College Drive, Palos Heights, IL.

Tickets are $14.00 at the door, for more information call 773-239-6279 or http://www.musichorale.org/. Handicap Accessible and free valet parking is available.

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B-MAC EDITION

Volume 7 | Number 23 | December 3, 2013

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Village of Midlothian digs for money

by Jan Glaz

Trustee Karen Kreis announced she had submitted a draft for the Housing Development Authority Grant on the very day of the Village of Midlothian Board Meeting, November 27th. Kreis said it is the first time the Village has applied for such a grant and it pays for the demolition of residential property and provides for exterior maintenance of abandoned vacant property. The grant only applies to residential properties. Trustee Kreis thanked all who have helped: she has gathered information from the Fire Chief. Police Chief and other sources to meet the requirements for the completion of the grant application. "It entails an incredible, incredible amount of data to be compiled for this application," said Kreis. The final application has to be submitted by December 6th. "Keep your fingers crossed." said Kreis "There's no match on this one." If there were a match the Village would have to pay out a predetermined cost. Kreis closed her report on grant funding by stating. "Everyone knows how we are struggling with our finances but we keep digging, there are resources out there."

In regards to grant money, the Board of Trustees decided to execute an agreement for engineering services with Weaver Boos for the Illinois Green Infrastructure Grant Program (IGIG). Stormwater management. Financial Aid provided by Grants are available to local units of government and other organizations to implement green infrastructure best management practices to control stormwater runoff for water quality protection in Illinois. Projects must be located within a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) or Combined Sewer Overflow area. The total amount of funding available under IGIG is approximately 5 million dollars annually. This is a reimbursement program. Grant recipients must perform the work, pay project costs, and submit invoice(s) (periodically throughout the project period) with supporting documentation before Illinois EPA will reimburse recipients for any approved costs.

A final reminder, the Midlothian Area Chamber of Commerce will host the 34th Annual Santa Day Parade on Saturday December 7th. The line-up will begin at 3:00 p.m. and the parade will begin at 3:30 p.m.

Crestwood approves Paratransit Grant Agreement with Pace

by Jan Glaz

What is Paratransit? Paratransit provides transportation for people with disabilities who are unable to use the regular fixed route transit service that serves their region. Paratransit usually provides door-to-door service for people who call to reserve a ride. Crestwood Village trustees stated that it is in the best interest of the Village and its residents to continue the essential Paratransit Service provided by the Village's "Crestwood Transportation Authority" and on November 22nd the Crestwood Village Board accepted a Resolution Authorizing and Approving a "Paratransit Grant Agreement" with the Suburban Bus Division of the Regional Transportation Authority (operationally called "Pace") for a period from January 01, 2014 to December 31, 2014.

Village Clerk Jeannette O'Donnell announced that there is a tradition in Crestwood to sponsor a food drive for the needy at this time of year. Clerk O'Donnell asked anyone who can to drop off non-perishable food items and new toys at the Village Hall. Donations will be accepted up to December 16th, also, if anyone knows of a family in need please call the Village Hall before or on December 13th to place them on a list for the needy. Food baskets will be delivered around December 20th.

Newsworthy: The Board voted unanimously to accept the bonds and oaths for Richard Malinoski for the Fire Department. Joseph Sadowski's appointment to the position of Parks Director passed with a vote of 5-to-1. A resident queried Trustee Linda Madlener as to why she cast a nay vote for appointing the Parks Director. "Because I feel there should be someone there who is familiar with the different organizations of the Village, someone who has been out there who knows what the different needs are and I don't feel Joe is the best one for the Village." answered Madlener.

Approvals before adjournment: a motion to amend the Liquor Control Act of the Crestwood Village Code and a motion to Authorize the Execution of an agreement for Enforcement of Municipal Ordinances on private property (for police, traffic, and parking enforcement) between the Village of Crestwood and Properties located at 13535 S. Lamon; 13531 S. Lamon; 13543 S. Lamon and 13547 S. Lamon.

Blue Island welcomes Santa Claus

Santa will be arriving into town on December 7th, 2013 and his first stop is Memorial Park. Join the crowd that will welcome Santa Claus when he arrives. How will Santa arrive? You'll just have to come and see for yourself.

Santa will greet guests immediately after his arrival. There is no charge to join. December 7th. 11:30 arrival time.

Santa will arrive at Memorial Park, Blue Island, 12804 S. Highland Ave.

Angel's Touch "Fill a Cruiser Food Drive", December 7th, 2013

While you're Santa, help us reach a righteous goal!

Help fill a Blue Island Police squad car with non-perishable food items. Collections will be handled by Angel's Touch charity a not for profit organization dedicated to helping working class families since 1991.

Donations will be taken during the "Fill A Cruiser Food Drive event on December 7th from 11am to 2pm. A Blue Island Police squad car will be parked outside the Memorial Park Field House, all donations will be placed inside this vehicles.

Early donations will also be accepted until December 6th at the Memorial Park Field House from 10am - 6pm Monday through Friday and 9am to 1pm on Saturdays, closed Sunday.

Questions or comments call 708-385-3304 or visit www.blueislandparks.org/

Alsip Trustee questions hire of Ethics Advisor

by Jan Glaz

Mayor Patrick Kitching requested a motion to approve an Ordinance amending a Municipal Code in regards to Administration; adding an Ethics Advisor for the Board and Employees of the Village of Alsip several times during the Board Meeting held on November 11th. After the first request. Trustee Ryan read language within the ordinance and then questioned the need to hire an Ethics Advisor. Village Attorney Sue Glover replied that an Advisor is not required but she had suggested the hiring as many municipalities including the State of Illinois have a designated person assigned to answer questions from officials and staff members on various matters of ethics: "Can I accept a ticket or a Christmas gift from a certain individual according to ordinance rule, etc." Grover stated that hiring an advisor would save time and embarrassment because the Board and staff could inquire directly to a person assigned to handle a particular matter. Kitching addressed Ryan. "Why would you not want an Ethics Advisor?" and then addressed the Board. "This was at committee last week where everybody had a chance to look at it and talk about it... I entertain a motion to approve this ordinance." However, Trustee Ryan was not comfortable with an expense of $185.00 per hour and was concerned over how many hours per week. The Mayor cut in: "What are you doing now, so you don't want anybody to be an advisor on ethics? I entertain a motion to approve this please." A motion to approve never materialized; A motion to table the matter until December 16th carried.

Approved before the meeting adjourned: a request to accept attorney settlement recommendation for all open 2005-2006 tax rate objection matters. The settlement reduces the potential tax refund by $53,247.64; a request to accept attorney settlement recommendation for the 2008 Revolutionary LLC PTAB appeal involving the Baymont Inn located at 12801 S. Cicero; and a request for holiday pay in the amount of up to $38,879.12 for fiscal year 2013 - 2014.

Moving Afghan women forward and not backwards

by Paula J. Dobriansky and Melanne S. Verveer

Afghanistan's presidential election season has been in full swing for the past two months. In a sign of genuine political progress, the government recently began accepting nominations for candidates to succeed current President Hamid Karzai. This process started just weeks after the nation's Assembly passed legislation providing a legal framework for the presidential, provincial council, and parliamentary elections.

Nothing is more important for Afghanistan than building on the liberalizing achievements of the past decade and preventing a slide back toward repression.

One of the major aims of this effort needs to be retaining and expanding the hard-won rights of Afghan women. Gender equality isn't just a matter of moral fairness, it's essential to the country's economic and political health and to ensuring the nation has a secure, peaceful, and stable future.

Since the fall of the Taliban, Afghan women have enjoyed a significant expansion in their rights. The country's current constitution affords equal protection to men and women, guaranteeing women the right to education, political participation, and economic opportunity. Afghan women are now employed at jobs ranging from doctor to police officer, an unthinkable situation under the Taliban. And a recent Oxfam report found that school enrollment among girls has increased from roughly 5,000 to 2.4 million.

These are encouraging developments. But there is so much more progress to be made. Afghan women are still the targets of institutional discrimination and gender-based violence.

Over the last half of 2013, two consecutive Ministry of Women's Affairs chiefs were assassinated. Just this August, female parliamentarian Fariba Ahmadi Kakar was kidnapped by Taliban militants. A few days later, the vehicle envoy of female senator Roh Guhl Khairzad was ambushed, leading to the death of her eight-year-old daughter.

And in mid-September, Afghanistan's top female police officer was shot as she left her home.

This violence is organized, and on purpose. Sima Samar, head of the Independent Human Rights Commission of Afghanistan, has noted that by targeting high-profile women, the Taliban seeks to "limit the active presence and activities of women in their society."

A new United Nations report finds that in the first six months of 2013, the deaths of women and children jumped 38 percent compared to the same period last year.

American forces will be fully withdrawn from Afghanistan by the end of next year. It's absolutely imperative that their exit not precipitate a backslide. The country's government must be expected to keep its commitments to women and girls.

At its most basic level, gender equality is about affirming human dignity. But this issue is also essential to the political, economic, and social success of a nation more generally. And securing gender equality starts with improving access to education.

The statistics tell the story. Educated women are less likely to die during childbirth and more likely to send their own children to school. Mortality rates for children under five are 50 percent lower for mothers who have attended primary school.

These facts shouldn't be surprising. Education is a basic human right and its impact is transformative in any society.

Educated women are major contributors to Afghanistan's economy. Each additional year of primary school improves a woman's earning potential by 10 to 20 percent. Educated women are also far more likely to invest in their children, who then grow up to be the educated young citizens essential to sustained economic growth.

Women also provide an indispensable voice in political institutions. Here in the United States, after gaining the right to vote, women drew attention to underappreciated issues like maternal health and childcare. The resulting policy shifts are linked to an eight to ten percent reduction in child mortality rates.

In Afghanistan, female participation is essential to the nation's future. They are a critical force for human rights, reconciliation, and the rebuilding of their society. Given the enormous challenges that Afghanistan faces in the coming years, the country cannot afford to regress back to a system in which some of its brightest minds are left out of the political process - or any part of society.

Afghanistan's elections and the impending withdrawal of American troops mark a new era in the country's development. The international community must work to ensure that women's gains in recent years are protected, and that Afghan women continue to make political and economic progress. Any future support for the country's government must be explicitly tied to continued defense of equal rights, and continued progress of female citizens.

Afghan women have already engaged in acts of astonishing bravery to win their rights. And they continue to risk their lives, and the lives of their families, everyday to stand up for basic human values.

They face real danger. Their success requires both that the Afghan government honor its commitments to universal rights and that the international community continue to lend support to their leadership.

We must not abandon the women of Afghanistan. If the nation's women are abandoned, any possibility of peace and prosperity could vanish.

Paula J. Dobriansky, Ph.D., is former Under Secretary of State for Democracy and Global Affairs. Melanne S. Verveer is former Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues.

Oak Lawn Water Contract angers Oak Forest Alderman

by Jan Glaz

After six years of talks and over three years of negotiations a consortium of municipalities including Oak Forest, Tinley Park, Mokena and New Lenox have completed mediations with the Village of Oak Lawn to construct a new looped water system and to provide water for the next 40 years. The Oak Forest City Council voted to approve the contract at the Council Meeting held on November 26th. Prior to voting on the agreement Alderman Richard Simon stated: "I have a very big problem with this contract and the fact that we are being forced to pay $700,000.00 toward a pumping station that was put in that does not benefit Oak Forest. I'm going to vote for it because there is no other alternative, we either do this or I can't imagine what our water bills will be in the future. We thoroughly discussed and investigated the possibility of going to court about this and two different sets of lawyers told us we would lose the case in court. I don't understand how any judge can make a community pay for something that does not benefit them. It only benefits the communities of Tinley Park and several communities to the west and south of them. I just hate it, that we have to pay that, it's not fair and it's not right."

Finance Director Colleen Julian requested a motion that carried for an ordinance for the issuance of not to exceed $1.5 million principal amount General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2013. In her memo to the Mayor and City Council, Julian stated that the South Suburban Mayors and Managers (SSMMA) decided to suspend the operation of the Bond Bank and arranged for Fifth Third Bank to refund the existing debt. Since the City of Oak Forest issued bonds in the amount of $1.5M from the bond bank, the city needed to pass an ordinance to refund existing debt and close the Bond Bank. The interest rate for the new bonds, said Julian, is estimated to be fixed at 2.345% annually for 130 months. There is a prepayment penalty of 1% within 1 year.

Before the meeting adjourned: Two motions carried in regard to liquor licenses, decreasing the number of liquor licenses in Oak Forest due to a change in ownership of the convenience store located at 15103 South Cicero Avenue, to Laxmi, Inc. and increasing the number of liquor licenses to accommodate the new owner. The City Council also voted to approve a proposal submitted by Illinois Counties Risk Management Trust in the amount of $727,904.00 for Workers Compensation Insurance for the 2014 year.

Oak Lawn Library announcements

Teen Programs (grades 8 through 12)

Teen Game Night at the Oak Lawn Public Library, will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 11 from 7-8:30 p.m. Check out the new PlayStation 4. Play Kinect and Wii games, DDR, even board games. Snacks and drinks will be provided.

Free Movie: The Muppet Christmas Carol

The Oak Lawn Public Library, 9427 S. Raymond Avenue, will host a free movie screening of "The Muppet Christmas Carol" on Monday, Dec. 23 at 10 a.m. The Muppet characters tell their version of the classic tale of an old and bitter miser's redemption on Christmas Eve. 1992. G. 85 min.

For more information about these and other programs, call 708-422-4990 or visit http://www.oaklawnlibrary.org/.

Oak Lawn Public Library is located at 9427 S. Raymond Avenue.

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We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

Media meets Queen of Peace coaches

by Kelly White

Queen of Peace High School, 7659 S. Linder Ave., is starting up a new tradition this month with an experience called, Meet the Coaches. Taking place on Tuesday, Dec. 3rd from 3:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m., media members have the opportunity to meet Queen of Peace coaches at their first ever meet and greet.

"The event is being held for local media to get a chance to meet and become more familiar with Queen of Peace coaches." Anna Paszkiet, Communication Manager for Queen of Peace stated on behalf of the event.

Coaches participating in the event include: George Shimko, Head Varsity Basketball Coach; Alex Shimko, Assistant Varsity Basketball Coach; Ashley Dick, Head Varsity Cross Country and Head Varsity Track and Field Coach; Tom Naughton, Head Varsity Golf Coach; Julio Martinez, Head Varsity Soccer Coach; Anthony Godinez , Assistant Varsity Soccer Coach; Erin Sullivan, Head Varsity Softball Coach; Mary Kate Love, Head JV Softball Coach; James Walker, Head Varsity Tennis Coach; and Megan Jones, Head Varsity Volleyball Coach.

"Our coaches hope to benefit from this event by connecting with local media and promoting our sports programs," Paszkiet said.

Sports programs at Queen of Peace continue to gain popularity, with over 330 students participating in basketball, soccer, softball and volleyball. With eight sports programs and 20 teams comprised of all levels, freshman, junior varsity and varsity, over 40 percent of Queen of Peace's students participate in athletics. On the court, field or track, Queen of Peace student-athletes find their niche and develop new athletic skills and learn perseverance, dedication, self-discipline, teamwork and leadership. Try-outs are held each season according to the Illinois High School Association's (IHSA) calendar, and students are placed on appropriate level teams.

Queen of Peace competes and is consistently ranked in the highly regarded Red Division of the Girls Catholic Athletic Conference (GCAC) and is a member of the IHSA. In 2009-10, Queen of Peace student-athletes earned a combined GPA of 3.28. Eighteen varsity athletes in eight sports were named All-Conference selections, and 78 were members of the GCAC All-Academic Team, a recognition received for maintaining a 3.0 GPA during each student's competitive season. Queen of Peace student-athletes also benefit from weekly grade eligibility evaluations, quality facilities and experienced coaches, as well as an extensive summer camp and conditioning programs.

"We have so many great student-athletes here at Queen of Peace and we hope to have their hard work and commitment recognized by those outside of the Queen of Peace community," Paszkiet added.

Waddles Winter Wonderland

Come join us and Waddles the penguin to enjoy a free day of holiday fun at our very own Winter Wonderland! You and your family will not want to miss out on this new exciting event! We will be playing holiday games, making our very own gingerbread men cookies, decorating holiday decorations and much much more! We will have holiday entertainment and let's not forget about Santa! Everyone will get the chance to meet Santa himself and take a family picture with him to! So come out and help us spread the holiday cheer at Waddles Winter Wonderland!

Schedule of events:

10:00am: Cookie and Ornament Decorating

11:00am: Stagg High School Choir Performs

11:30am: Santa Arrives!!!!!

12:00pm: Shepard High School Choir Performs

12:15pm: Holiday Games and Refreshments

12:30-1:00pm: Candy Cane Hunt in Myers Park

During the entire event Santa will be taking pictures with families, we will be decorating cookies, and making ornaments. So if you can't make it right at 10:00am you will still have the opportunity to participate in all the activities.

Contact for more information Palos Heights Recreation Center at 708-361-1807.

Oak Lawn Chamber to host Holiday Luncheon

The Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce will meet for its annual Holiday luncheon on Tuesday, December 10th at the Hilton Oak Lawn, 9333 S. Cicero Ave. Networking and registration begins at 11:30 a.m. followed by lunch at noon. Chamber members and residents are welcome to attend.

In the spirit of the Holiday Season the Oak Lawn Chamber is sponsoring a food drive again this year. Donations will benefit the Pilgrim Faith United Church of Christ food pantry. Please bring your donations to the Chamber office located at 5120 Museum Dr. (inside the Metra train station) or to our holiday luncheon on Tuesday, December 10th at the Hilton Oak Lawn.

Entertainment during the luncheon will be provided by the Oak Lawn Community High School Chorus, under the direction of Meredith McGuire.

The luncheon costs $20 per person, payable at the door by cash, check, Visa/MasterCard/Discover.

To make a luncheon reservation, or for more information, call 708-424-8300 or send an email to office@oaklawnchamber.com

Pappas shows holiday trees and displays for tenth year

For the 10th year, holiday trees and cultural displays decorated and mounted by religious and ethnic groups will be on display through the holiday season in the office of Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas.

The display of "Holiday Trees from Around the World," an annual tradition in Pappas' office begun in 2003, will be available for public viewing until January 6, 2014, in Room 112 of the Cook County Building, 118 N. Clark St., Chicago.

Sponsoring groups and individuals all start with three-foot-high trees which they decorate to reflect their own cultural traditions. When all the trees and other displays, from African American, Hindu, Jewish and Muslim traditions and a Christian Nativity scene, are completed, they stand lighted on counters through the Treasurer's Office, showing familiar ornaments and tinsel, but also animals, flowers, fruit, balls, candles, plates, boats, stars and flags.

"We see Cook County's amazing population diversity in these trees and displays, each celebrating a different heritage but all creating a special beauty together," said Pappas, thanking all who have decorated trees and provided displays. The nearly 90 countries and communities represented this year include:

African American, Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Assyrian, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Carpatho-Rusyn, China, Colombia, Cornwall, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Czech Moravian, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, England, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala.

Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Korea, Laos, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malaysia, Mexico, Native American, Netherlands, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Puerto Rico, Romania, Russia, Scotland, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, Uruguay, Ukraine, United States, Uruguay, Vietnam, Wales.

What every Medicare Beneficiary should know about the new Health Care Reform Act

Have questions about the health care reform law? Here's your opportunity to hear an overview of major provisions of the Affordable Care Act. This presentation is aimed at those 65 years of age and older. Medicare beneficiaries. You'll learn about the provisions that may impact you and the timeline for what happens and when. Join Diane Adueci of Blue Cross and Blue Shield for an informative discussion on December 13 from 10 am to noon at the Midlothian Public Library, 14701 S. Kenton Ave. Please register online at http://www.midlothianlibrary.org/ or by calling the Reference Desk at 708-535-2027.

Mt. Zion Lutheran Church will present a free

Live Outdoor Nativity Scene

December 13 & 14 ~ 6:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

both evenings on the lawn at Mt. Zion,

104th & Kostner, Oak Lawn

Children can pet the live animals from The Farm, warm up with hot chocolate and cookies inside & sing favorite Christmas carols as part of the story.

A chance to hear the story of the birth of the Savior in the midst of a 'winter holiday' world.

Out and About

with Kelly White

Alsip

The Alsip Park District is offering a Health Check on Friday, December 27th from 9:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. at the Apollo Recreation Center, 12521 S Kostner Avenue. Over 40 health tests are available for only $50. To schedule an appointment, contact Healthchek at 219-322-7041 or 1-800-915-4583. For test information, visit their website at www.healthchek.net.

Midlothian

Gingerbread House Fun will be taking place on Wednesday, December 11th at the Midlothian Park District, 14500 Kostner Avenue from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. for adults for a $15 fee per resident and a $20 fee per non-resident. The Midlothian Park District would like to invite you to decorate houses for you to take home and enjoy. Everything is included; just bring a 13x9 pan to transport your house home. For more information, please call 708-389-4372.

Gingerbread Man Workshop for children ages 5-10 years old will be taking place on Wednesday, December 18th from 6:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. at the Midlothian Park District, 14500 Kostner Avenue, for an $18 fee per resident and a $23 fee per non-resident. For more information, please call 708-389-4372.

Lego Club will take place on Thursday, December 12th from 4:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. The Midlothian Public Library, 14701 S. Kenton Avenue, invites children ages 4 & up to drop in and build with legos that will be provided. No registration.

Blue Island

Calumet Township and the Greater Food Depository have joined forces to provide those 55 and over with a free food market on Thursday, December 12th. Each participant will receive a bag of fresh produce and other basic food items. Examples: produce, rice, beans, cereal, canned goods, and canned meats. Please contact the Community Center at 708-388-6606 for more information.

Adult and youth guitar lessons are taking place at the Blue Island Park District, 12804 South Highland Avenue, on Wednesdays now through December 18th. Youth class time goes from 4:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. and adult class time goes from 6:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. For more information, please call 708-385-3304.

Crestwood

Beginner Yoga will be offered at the Crestwood Recreation and Wellness Center, 5331 W. 135th Street, for a three week class beginning December 9th from 6:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. or from 7:15 p.m. until 8:15 p.m. for $18 for resident and $21 for non-resident. For more information, please call 708-371-4810.

Oak Forest

The Oak Forest Park District, is offering a Christmas Craft Fair on Sunday, December 8th from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the Oak Forest Park District, 15601 Central Avenue. Shop for holiday gifts ranging from: doll clothes, crafts, and decorations from over 50 crafters and vendors. For more information, please call 773-934-9881.

Join a Winter Adult Volleyball League at the Oak Forest Park District, 15601 Central Avenue, with co-ed teams on Fridays and Sundays this winter and women only on Mondays. For more information, please call Kirstin at 708-687-7270 ext. 132.

Tinley Park

Arts Alive! Children's Theater Presents: "A Holiday in OZ" at the Tinley Park Performing Arts Center, 16801 S. 80th Avenue on December 13th at 6:00 p.m., December 14th at 4:30 p.m. and December 15th at 2:00 p.m. Tickets on Sale December 6th at the Bettenhausen Recreation Center. For more information, please call 708-342-4200.

Chicago Ridge

Adult Co-Ed Volleyball Leagues will be taking place at Frontier Park Fieldhouse, 9807 S. Sayre Avenue, on Friday nights from December 6th through February 21st at 6:30 p.m. There is a $300 registration fee due at the time of registration. For more information, please call 708-423-3959.

Christmas Cookie and Tree Decorating Party will be held on Monday, December 16th from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. at Freedom Activity Center, 6252 W. Birmingham, for a $10 fee. For more information, please call 708-636-4900.

Gingerbread House Making will take place on Tuesday, December 17th at 6:30 p.m. at Freedom Activity Center, 6252 W. Birmingham. For more information, please call 708-636-4900.

Worth

Breakfast with Santa will be taking place on Saturday, December 14th from 10:00 a.m. until noon at the Terrace Center, 11500 S Beloit Avenue. For more information, please call 708-448-7413.

Justice

Are you over 55 years of age and are interested in being active? If so, you can register to join the Justice Park District's new Club Active. To join you must be at least 55 years of age and register by filling out a short application you can obtain by visiting the Justice Community Center on 7747 South Oak Grove, Avenue, or call 708-458-1370 for a mailed copy.

Oak Lawn

Bailey's Crossing Dog Park, 9910 S. Melvina, is offering a Memorial Brick Program. The bricks are 4" x 8" and can be purchased for $75. There is a limit of two (2) lines of 13 characters per line (including spaces) per brick. A form along with more information can be found online at. For more information, please call Denise Iwinski at 708-857-2200.

Hickory Hills

Wine Tasting will be offered at Saint Patricia, 9000 South 86th Avenue, on Friday, December 6th beginning at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are $35 each, including $5 voucher toward purchase for the holidays. Limited Seating, call the Rectory at 708-598-5222 or email peg.lauth@comcast.net.

Orland Park

Santa's Pit Stop at Sportsplex, 11351 W. 159th Street, will be taking place on Saturday, December 7th from 9:00 a.m. until noon. This event is free to all ages. For more information, please call 708-645-7529.

Orland Park Theatre Troupe Presents: "A Simple Miracle" on Friday, December 13, 2013 at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, December 14, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, December 15, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. at the Orland Park Civic Center, 14750 Ravinia Avenue. Tickets are $13 per adult, $11 per senior or student and $9 per child. For more information, please call 708-403-7275.

Palos Hills

Cinderella's Holiday Ball, a Father-Daughter Dance, will take place on Friday, December 6th from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at the Palos Hills Community Center, 8455 W. 103rd Street, for $25 a couple, $15 for each additional adult and $10 each additional child. Princesses and their dads, grandpas or gentlemen in their life are invited to meet Cinderella, Snow White and Belle at the Royal Holiday Ball. For more information, please call 708-430-4500.

Palos Park

Breakfast with Santa will be taking place on Saturday, December 14th from 9:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. at the Palos Park Recreation Department, 8901 West 123rd Street. For more information, please call 708-671-3760.

Palos Heights

Waddles Winter Wonderland is scheduled to take place on Saturday, December 14th from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at the Palos Heights Parks and Recreation Department, 6601 W 127th Street. Everyone will get the chance to meet Santa himself as well as get a family picture with him. This event is free and all ages are welcome. For more information, please call 708-361-1807.

Holiday happenings

Holiday Breakfast Tea and Cookie Exchange

The Blue Island Historical Society is holding their Annual Holiday Breakfast and Cookie Exchange. Call 708-371-8546 to reserve. Saturday, December 7, 10 a.m., $20 at Blue Island Historical Society Albee House, 13018 S. Maple Ave.

Lunch with Santa

Watch as Santa's helpers turn the Park District's Memorial Park Field House into Santa's Workshop. Build and craft ornaments and gifts for loved ones all while enjoying Christmas cheer and get a printed photo with Santa and other keepsakes. Saturday, December 7, 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., $15/$20 at Memorial Park Banquet Hall, 12804 S. Highland Ave., 708-385-3304

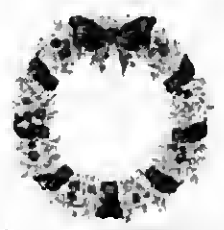
Light Parade

Cheer the dancing horses, the Eisenhower Marching Band, School District 130 Band, the Cardinal Dancers and much more. After the parade, there will be a tree lighting ceremony, refreshments and cookie sale at MetroSouth Park at the corner of York and Western. Saturday, December 7, 5:30 p.m. at Western Ave from Union south to Vermont.

Hot rod holiday hoedown

Join the Romin Chariots for a Christmas Party and toy drive featuring live '50s rock 'n' roll and rockabilly by the Cadillac Casanovas. Bring an unwrapped toy to donate to Angel's Touch. Saturday, December 7, from 8 p.m. to 12 a.m., $10 at Eagles Bowling Alley, 2427 Grove St, Blue Island, IL.

Season Greetings



JANE NOLAN
Palos Township Clerk
10802 South Roberts Rd.
Palos Hills, IL.
708-598-4418

Merry Christmas
Capri

Cocktails & Banquet Room

Take us home for the Holidays
Catering available at both locations

Capri Ristorante Italiano
12307 S. Harlem Ave., Palos Hts, IL
708-671-1657
Monday 4pm-10pm,
Tuesday-Thursday 11am-2pm 4pm-10pm
Friday 11am-2pm 4pm-11pm,
Saturday 4pm-11pm, Sunday 3pm-9pm

Capri Italian Deli
12902 S. La Grange, Palos Park, IL
708-671-0600
Open 7 Days A Week
Hot Soup • Paninis • Italian Subs
Hot Beef • Hot Italian Sausage

Culinary students cook up one hundred recipes from the pantry for Together We Cope

What's for dinner if you're a food pantry client?

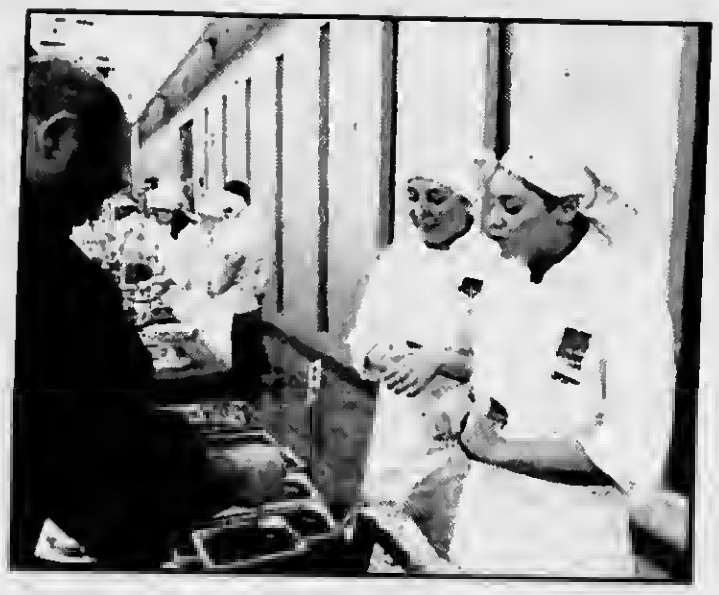
How about chicken tetrazzini?

Or gumbo?

Or fried ravioli?

Those dishes will be easy to make for clients of Together We Cope, thanks to the creativity of culinary students from Robert Morris University who competed in a Food Pantry Challenge.

Challenged to come up with interesting ways to make meals using only food pantry-supplied staples, meat and produce, the students created nearly 100 recipes that call for ingredients the Tinley Park-based agency is packing up for clients this month.



"Everyone who's worked in the pantry has, at some point, come across a donation, it could be something packaged, or a vegetable, or meat, and we've asked each other, 'What would you do with this?'" said Kathryn Straniero, executive director at Together We Cope. To generate recipes, the agency hosted the Food Pantry Challenge, a contest that drew 28 student chefs from Robert Morris. They had 24 hours to come up with recipes and four hours to cook the food for a panel of judges to sample at the university's Orland Park campus.

The winning menu included 14 dishes ranging from sausage/Ramen stroganoff, which includes a novel use for Ramen noodles, to a pork-and-bean dish featuring braised pig's feet, an item that many cooks might find difficult to use. "You've made so many wonderful dishes using our food," Straniero said before announcing the winners. "Your creativity is just amazing, and we are so grateful."

Grand Prize winners were student chefs Timothy Beutel of Joliet, Grant Duncan of Joliet and Dillon Sandberg of Libertyville. They were chosen by judges Nicholas Kapellas, managing partner at Bonefish Grill in Orland Park; Donna Lorent-Migliorese, local store marketer at Texas Roadhouse in Tinley Park; and José Torres, executive chef at Rock Bottom Brewery in Orland Park.

Additionally, longtime Together We Cope volunteers John and Pat Slack awarded the Good Home Cooking award to Liz Rice and Anna Piech, both of Orland Park.

Robert Morris University chef instructor Mark Wroczynski was proud of the way the students rose to the challenge. "They were really thinking way outside the box," he said.

Recipes will be distributed to clients and also available on the agency's website at TogetherWeCope.org.

Ingredients for the Food Pantry Challenge: enough to feed a family of 8 for a week

Produce (available to all groups) spring mix, mushrooms, carrots, lemons, grapefruit, oranges, onions, potatoes, limes, zucchini, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, cucumbers, and peppers (red, green, yellow and orange)

Proteins (differed slightly between groups): whole cut-up chicken, Italian sausage, pigs' feet, cheddar brats, beef shanks, smoked turkey sausage, beef femur bones, turkey neck bones

Dry goods (all groups): Wheat Chex, spaghetti sauce, canned sweet potatoes, baked beans, macaroni and cheese, canned green beans, canned soup, Jell-O, barbeque sauce, stock, black olives, brown rice, apple sauce, tuna, sliced bread, pasta, canned corn, canned spaghetti, cake mix, spicy mustard, canned pumpkin, pork rinds, sloppy joe mix, peanut butter, tea, ramen noodles, canned black beans, canned mandarin oranges, Miracle Whip, tomato sauce, corn bread mix, snack pack.

Pantry items provided by Robert Morris kitchen: flour, eggs, mayonnaise, sugar, milk, vinegar, canola oil, ketchup, soy sauce, yellow mustard, butter, salt and pepper

Together We Cope is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit based in Tinley Park that serves families in crisis from 22 south suburban communities through its food pantry, resale shop and funding for some needs such as rent and utility bills. Further information is at www.togetherwecope.org.

The following poems were written by Catherine Evelyn Gilhooly Haymaker

Catherine, known to all her friends as, Evelyn, was born in Chicago of Irish parents. Her father was a Chicago Police Officer and her husband Harry Bud Haymaker. She went to St. Patrick's Girls High School and graduated in 1944, during WWII. After high school, Evelyn worked for the US Treasury and the Jewish Welfare League, doing office work. After raising a family of six children, she returned to work with the Chicago Transit Authority and retired with a pension. The poems she wrote were tucked away for many years until a daughter suggested she enter some poems in a contest. She won three awards, which were beautiful crystal leafs. The following are the poems which she received an award:

"Fall" A Passing Friend

Summer has gone and disappeared into yesterday
Fall has come upon this scene with her gown of orange and gold
She's dabbed the trees with beauty for your eyes to behold
You walk through the woods and marvel at the color her brush has given the trees
It's sad to think that all this splendor will soon begin to freeze
Your spirits will start to soar again when things begin to bloom
For many of us I imagine, Spring can't arrive too soon

Patience

Can't you accept me for what I am not what you want me to be?
Everyone has failings you know, it's not only me
For some it's slower going though because of sickness and strife
Give me time, I hope to learn the things you want me to Character that's formed without a struggle is worthless from my point of view

Combinations of Time

Time is a moment, an hour, a day
It's used for many things such as work, rest, and play
Time is precious, it's wasted, it's dull
Even in a busy life sometimes there's a lull
It's a thoughtful gesture, a big mistake or a time of sorrow It may also be a carefree day that will greet you on the morrow
The shadow of time precedes and follow everyone
Every living moment until your life is done
Nothing is more expensive or reasonable than time
Use it wisely, be prudent, and you'll fare just fine

Custom Made Drapes
Custom Painting
Shades • Verticals
Custom Cleaning of Drapes
Shutters

FREE
in Home
Consultations

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Holiday Hoopla comes to the Palos Park Public Library

Children ages toddler-2nd grades are welcome to participate by visiting the library each week through Dec. 20 to find the hidden holiday pictures to win prizes and enter a raffle for a special gift. Drawing will be held Dec. 21. The library is located at 12330 Forest Glen Blvd. Palos Park, IL 60464.

City of Oak Forest briefs

Oak Forest electric aggregation savings program: first year results

Residents who participated in the City of Oak Forest's electric aggregation savings program have been enjoying significant savings on their ComEd bills since the program began in the summer of 2012. Although three percent of eligible ratepayers initially chose to opt out of the program, they are welcome to enroll at any time.

Oak Forest Fury Lacrosse collecting donations for tornado victims

Oak Forest Fury Lacrosse team members are collecting donations for families in Washington, IL whose homes were destroyed or damaged during Sunday's tornado. In this letter, Oak Forest Park District Commissioner and Oak Forest Deputy Fire Chief Charley Sopko explains why this tragedy hits close to home for the Fury.

City Hall is a Treasure Chest Foundation collection site

This holiday season, area residents and businesses have an opportunity to support children and teens fighting cancer by donating a new toy or gift during the Pediatric Oncology Treasure Chest Foundation (POTCF) annual holiday toy drive.

Spread some Christmas cheer at the parade, tree lighting ceremony on December 14

Join Mayor Hank Kuspa and Santa Claus as they ring in the holiday season at the annual tree lighting ceremony and parade on Saturday, December 14. The parade kicks off at Oak Forest High School at 11 a.m. and will proceed down Central Avenue to City Hall where the tree lighting ceremony will take place.

Having a holiday event, sale or special? Call Linda for advertising details at 708-425-1910 or visit www.vvnew.com

Loyola Medicine Health Fair

Palos Township Health Service is sponsoring the Loyola Medicine Health Fair on December 13th from 7am to 3pm at the Palos Township office 10802 S. Roberts Road in Palos Hills. They will be offering Ultrasound tests of the Heart and Arteries. There is a Heart Disease, Stroke, and Aneurysm Screening Package for $179 which includes an echocardiogram ultrasound test (ECHO), electrocardiogram (EKG), hardening of the arteries (ASI) test, stroke/carotid artery ultrasound test, peripheral arterial disease (PAD) test, and abdominal aortic aneurysm ultrasound. They also offer a Know Your Numbers Risk Assessment for $99 which tests a five year disease risk and lipid panel. Call the Loyola Medicine Health Fair at 1-855-441-8378 to schedule an appointment.

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Park Lawn's Be Grateful raffle

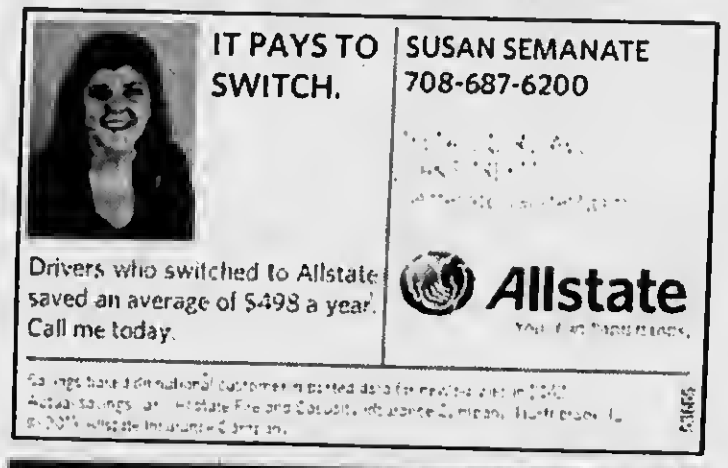
Tickets are on sale for Park Lawn's "Be Grateful" Raffle with the grand prize being $5,000 cash. The second prize is $1,500, third prize is $500.00. Only 555 tickets will be sold.

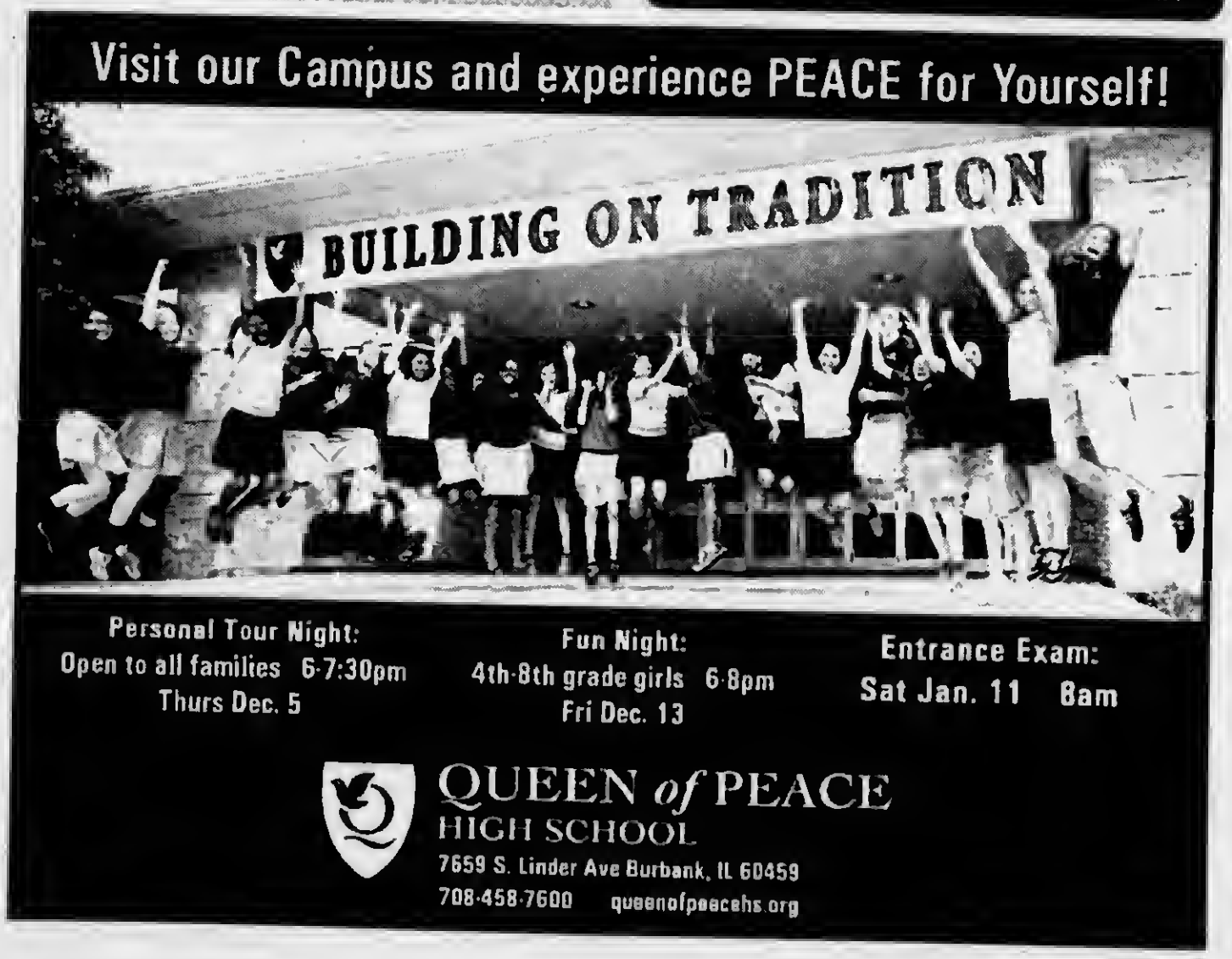
Park Lawn's "Be Grateful" tickets cost $50 each. Tickets and more information are available by calling 708-425-6867, or visit http://www.parklawn.com/.

Ticket purchasers are also eligible for the Bonus Raffle. For an additional $20.00, ticket buyers can participate in a split the pot, where 50% of the total will go towards the winner and 50% to Park Lawn. In years past, the split the pot amount exceeded the second place winnings.

The "Be Grateful" winners will be announced Thursday, December 12, at 12:00 PM. Winner need not be present. The drawing will take place at Park Lawn School, 10833 S. LaPorte in Oak Lawn.

Local non-profit organization Park Lawn Association provides residential and vocational support through a total of 12 facilities throughout the South Suburbs of Chicago for more than 450 individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.





Moraine Valley's Leadership Challenge now enrolling female executives

Businesswomen in management and leadership positions wanting to further their professional skills can gain an edge at The Leadership Challenge: Women Making the Extraordinary Happen, beginning in December, at Moraine Valley Community College, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills. The program takes place over five-and-one-half days from December through May.

Leadership Challenge participants will explore common workplace challenges and potential barriers women face while climbing the career ladder. They will learn strategies to enhance employee engagement, increase productivity and stimulate a culture of innovation to drive business results.

The program benefits businesses by helping participants become more productive, increase communication skills and improve conflict resolution skills. Other benefits for the participants include sharing insights with fellow leaders, comparing experiences and exploring how to maximize abilities and opportunities.

The Leadership Challenge will begin on Thursday, December 12, with a half-day orientation session during which participants will learn more about the program, discuss expectations and the curriculum, and get acquainted with each other. Each of the subsequent five sessions will be led by an expert trainer and will feature a female leader, who will relate her personal experiences during the luncheon keynote.

Leadership Practice Inventory, Friday, January 17. Trainer Albert Lewis, dean of Corporate, Community and Continuing Education at Moraine Valley, will lead participants in identifying leadership behaviors, relating personal best stories and learning the five best practices. Ellen Jordan Reidy, president and founder of American Food Technologies in Tinley Park, is the lunch keynote speaker.

Model the Way—Friday, February 21. Trainer Patricia Svare, founder of The Chatfield Group, will help participants clarify their values, set the leadership example, and discover the importance of credibility and what people admire most in leaders. Anne L. Schneider, secretary of the Illinois Department of Transportation, is the lunch keynote speaker.

Inspire a Shared Vision, Friday, March 14. Trainer Dr. Tanesha D.H., founder and CEO of Universal Kingdom Enterprises, will guide participants in learning to envision an ideal and unique future and how to make that vision come alive, as well as how to learn about team members' hopes, dreams and aspirations. Jennifer Convery, president of Griffith Laboratories U.S., in Alsip, is the lunch keynote speaker.

Enable Others to Act and Encourage the Heart, Friday, April 18. Trainer Debra J. Crawford, diversity and life coach consultant, will lead participants in examining the impact others' behavior has on self-esteem and desire to participate. They will learn how to build trust, facilitate relationships and help team members feel confident. Karin Norington-Reaves, CEO of Chicago Workforce Partnership, is the lunch keynote speaker.

Leadership Learning Reflection and Graduation, Friday, May 9. Trainer Jane Long, dean of Academic Development and Learning Resources at Moraine Valley, will conclude the Leadership Challenge.

The cost to attend is $1,495 and includes access to keynote speakers, trainers, networking, educational materials, breakfast, lunch, and snacks for all five days. Scholarships are available.

To register or get more information, call (708) 974-5714, visit morainevalley.edu/ecce or email schrimplee@morainevalley.edu.

Children's vaccinations available to the underinsured at Orland Township

Orland Township, 14807 S. Ravinia Avenue, has recently gained approval from the Illinois Department of Public Health to provide immunizations to local underinsured children at its monthly immunization clinic.

Vaccines are available to children 18 and under who are either uninsured, underinsured, Medicaid-eligible (includes All Kids), Native American or Alaskan Native. Underinsured means that the child has health insurance, but it does not cover any vaccines, certain vaccines, or it has a fixed dollar limit or cap for vaccines, and once that cap is reached a child is ineligible. With valid proof of Orland Township residency, vaccines are free of charge. For children residing outside of the township's boundaries, a $20 administration fee per vaccine will be collected. An up-to-date shot record is mandatory to receive any vaccine, and children must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

Available children's vaccines include DTaP, DTaP-Hep B-IPV, DTaP-IPV-Hib, DTaP-IPV, Hep A, Hep B, Hep B-Hib, HPV, Meningococcal, MMR, IPV, Pneumococcal, Rotavirus, Tdap and Varicella. Adult vaccines are offered to Orland Township residents only and are available at a discounted rate. Adult vaccines include HPV, Pneumococcal, Hep A, Tuberculosis, Hep B, Tdap, IPV, Meningococcal, Hep A-Hep B, MMR, Typhoid and Shingles. Proof of residency is required.

For additional information, or for upcoming immunization clinic dates, please call (708) 403-4222 or visit www.orlandtwp.org.

Tinley Park Public Library events

Movies & Books

The Tinley Park Public Library will host Movies & Books. Come watch our selected movie each month and return a few weeks later to chat about the book. Attend the screening, the book discussion, or both, it's up to you. No registration is required; however movie screening seating is limited to 125. Discussion books will be available immediately following the movie; afterwards, copies will be available at the Adult Reference Desk. On Saturday, December 7, 2013 at 1 pm the movie will be The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey. The book discussion on The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien will take place on Thursday, December 19, 2013 at 7:30 pm.

NFL Football for Beginners

The Tinley Park Public Library will host NFL Football for Beginners on Wednesday, December 4, 2013 at 7 pm. Get off the sidelines and into the game with your football-savvy friends and family and learn the fundamentals of America's #1 sport.

Register in person, online or by phone.

Below Stairs: Meet the Inspiration for Downtown Abbey

The Tinley Park Public Library will host Below Stairs: Meet the Inspiration for Downton Abbey on Wednesday, December 11, 2013 at 7 pm. Leslie Goddard portrays Margaret Powell, a kitchen maid and cook who worked in several stately English homes in the 1920's; her 1968 memoir was a key inspiration for the television programs Downton Abbey and Upstairs, Downstairs. Register in person, online or by phone.

E-Reader & Computer Classes

The Tinley Park Public Library will host a variety of free E-reader and computer classes to help you with your technology needs during the month of December. Simply register online or at the library.

Stress Reduction Meditation

The Tinley Park Public Library will host Stress Reduction Meditation on Thursday, December 5, 2013 at 7 pm. Bring your yoga mat or blanket and pillow to lie on the floor and enjoy this wonderful guided meditation designed to help you let go of stress. Relax, refresh, and renew, during this time set aside just for you. Cell phones must be powered off before entering the Meeting Room. No admittance once the meditation has begun. Register in person, online or by phone.

For more information visit our website, the Checkout Desk, our winter newsletter, or phone 708.532.0160, x 3. The Tinley Park Public Library is located at 7851 Timber Drive. Our website is www.tplibrary.org.

Tree Lighting Ceremony

The City of Palos Heights, Palos Area of Chamber, & Palos Heights Fire Protection Present:

Tree Lighting Ceremony, Friday, December 6th, 6:30pm to 8:30pm at the Palos Heights Fire Station (Corner of 123rd & Harlem).

This is a free event. Bring your camera for a free photo with Santa!

For more info, contact the Chamber at (708) 480-3025, email info@palosareachamber.org, or visit www.palosareachamber.org

Brother Rice Trivia Night tickets on sale now

Need a great gift idea for your favorite trivia buff? Tickets are now on sale for the Brother Rice Alumni Mothers' Club Trivia Night on Saturday, January 25, beginning at 7:00 p.m. This is a 21 and older event and the cost is $15 per person. For more information, contact Peggy Gannon at peggygannon24@gmail.com or 773-239-6399.

Christmas Care Program and Coat Drive

Sponsored by the Worth Township Youth Commission. Donations of new toys and clothing for all ages can be dropped off through Dec. 21 and will be distributed to families with young children experiencing financial difficulties. Coats, hats, scarfs, and gloves will be accepted through January 31 and will be distributed to those in need. For further details or questions, please call 708-371-2900.

Christmas Brunch's, Buffets, Dinners, Restaurants, Catering, Bakeries, Rental, New Year's Eve Party's, Parades, Santa Houses, Banquet Halls, call for all your advertising needs.
Visit vvnew.com or call Linda at 708-425-1910.

The Seafarer (left to right) Brad Armacost (Richard): Ira Amyx (Ivan): Dan Waller (Sharky): Shane Kenyon (Nicky); and Kevin Theis (Mr. Lockhart) in Seanachai Theatre's production of THE SEAFARER by Conor McPherson. Photo by Joe Mazza.

The Seafarer directed by Matt Miller

by Annette Dixon

The stereotype of the Irish drunk is certainly pronounced in this play with the devil making them do it. Conor McPherson is an Irish playwright with a contemporary flair for colorful language. The play's set represents a flat in Ireland and there are mentions of towns and cities with the biases that go with it. I am sure many people of all nationalities would enjoy this humorous but deep play.

Credit goes to Matt Miller who is a great director, for the play moves quickly, and there are very few slow spots not worth mentioning. I thoroughly recommend this play for the east is worth seeing.

Brad Armacost had so many lines that I couldn't believe one person can memorize so much. He was a hit too loud at times or maybe it was because he was flustered or jarred. Go to The Den Theatre, 1333 N. Milwaukee in Chicago and enjoy an evening with a group of men deciding how to celebrate a holiday.

Curtain Times: Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 pm; Sundays at 3:00 pm. $26 Thursdays & Fridays, $30 Saturdays & Sundays. Seniors/students $5 off. Tickets are available at visit www.seanachai.org or by calling (866) 811-4111. Group discounts (8 or more) are available by calling (773) 878-3727.

Book Reviews by Annette Dixon

The following book that I have read is very well written and I would like the readers to mark your calendar for the following Book talk & signing, Saturday, February 22, at 2 p.m. @ Seminary Co-op Bookstore, 5751 S Woodlawn Ave, Chicago, IL 60637.

Gangsters & Organized Crime in Jewish Chicago. History Press Publishing House and written by Alex Garel-Frantzen, a student at the University of Illinois College of Law, where he is a juris doctor candidate set to graduate in 2015. He is a three-time winner of the CALI Award for earning the highest score in law school courses relating to legal research and writing and is a member of the University of Illinois Law Review.

Alex earned a BA in history with a minor in Spanish in May 2012 from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, where he completed his degree in three years and graduated magna cum laude with highest distinction. He was awarded the Department of History Scholarship for Outstanding Senior Honors Thesis and the Martha Belle Barrett Scholarship for Undergraduate Academic Excellence and superior commitment to the study of history.

Alex is also a member of Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's oldest academic honor society.

The Jewish Community between 1838 and 1935 struggled with the pecking order of dominance in neighborhoods throughout the city of Chicago. The difference with a Jew getting into organized crime and other nationalities is the Jewish community wasn't supportive of a person getting involved in organized crime. It was shameful.

ISBN: 978-1-62619-193-8 • Paperback • 160 pages • $19.99 • November 2013 This new book is available at local stores and online at www.historypress.net

It retails as an E-BOOK via Amazon, Barnes & Noble, the iBookstore, Kobo & OverDrive.

Chicago Magic, a History of Stagecraft and Spectacle

Reviewing this book was not difficult because the specialty is magic. If you enjoy the art of magic and don't think it wicked to perform, this is the book for you. Especially because of the Chicago foundation of the art and the importance of the magicians born in Chicago or coming from other states.

The World of Magic with Houdini and the 1893 World's Fair is first discussed in the famous Chicago Magic Book, written by Chicago native David Witter. As a freelance writer and photographer, he is a regular contributor to New City and Fra Noi. His work has appeared in Washington Post, the Chicago Tribune, the Chicago Reader, Living Blues, The Best of Chicago Blues Annual, The Bay Area Music Magazine, The Copley News Syndicate and Lerner Newspapers. Witter has also taught English and special education at the Chicago Public Schools for twenty years and currently teaches at Kelly High School.

Harry Blackstone Sr.: Chicago Native and last "king of magic", Riverview Magic, nostalgia which is never forgotten but also not recorded and Marshall Brodien are just a few of the great magicians written about in magical form.

Several chapters are dedicated to the women magicians such as Frances Ireland, Celeste Evans and Maritess Zurbano. As Mr. Witter mentioned the women were not accepted as magicians. It was difficult to set a stage for them to be taken seriously for women would not accept women firstly and secondly men appalled seeing women try levitation. Maritess Zurbano travels around the world doing levitations and setting a new stage for female magicians. This paperback consists of 128 pages, costs $19.99 and on the shelves in November 2013. This new book is available at local stores and online at www.historypress.net also ebooks at Amazon.com

Good Kings Bad Kings

Playwright Susan Nussbaum has had her plays produced in several theaters throughout Chicago, but this is her first novel about a subject dear to her heart.

Disabilities come in all forms and the women in each chapter mention their disability and their coping mechanism, whether they knew what to do or not.

This book is fiction although Susan is also disabled. She mentions in the authors' notes how she struggled with her disability due to her own attitude and how she overcame her problems.

The stories are sad but educational for the able bound person. With the help of knee implants, I am able to be mobile but two of my friends are not mobile and have no alternative but to sit in a wheelchair or lay in bed.

Experiences one receives in reading Good Kings Bad Kings is the enlightenment from disabilities of all sorts. One can learn from each person's downfall and their rise from the ashes.

Even though these characters are fictional, there is pain in reading certain stories about certain characters and other stories are so humorous. I cried, laughed and became saddened, all in one story. We all know of someone in the same predicament as those in the book Good Kings Bad Kings.

Susan Nussbaum became disabled at the age of 24, when she was hit by a car, walking on the sidewalk in Chicago on her way to acting school.

Seven months later, she was released from the hospital, healthy, rehabilitated and a wheelchair-user. As Susan stated, "In spite of the support that surrounded me, I felt entirely alone with this new reality. I had not idea how to be a disabled person."

Good Kings Bad Kings Paperback, priced $14.95, 304 pages and can be purchased at Algonquin Books www.algonquin.com.

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Blue Island Park District

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Santa will be collecting a $5 suggested donation per printed photograph. No fee to visit.

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Crafters Corner & More

To advertise in Crafters Corner, or Crafters Wanted, call Linda for more information at 708-425-1910.

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CONSUMER CORNER

Make sure your ducts are done right

(NAPSA)-When it's time to have your home's heating and cooling ducts cleaned, it's important to do your homework and avoid scam artists.

So say the experts at the nonprofit National Air Duct Cleaners Association (NADCA). They recently exposed some companies that use bait-and-switch tactics to take advantage of consumers.

Said Executive Director Jodi Araujo, "Consumers should always be on the lookout for duct-cleaning companies whose advertised prices seem too good to be true. Beyond the pricing issues, incomplete and unprofessional work on air duct systems could damage the integrity of consumers' HVAC system. Be sure to work with a qualified, NADCA-certified HVAC professional." She offers the following advice:

• Make sure the duct-work, coils and all components are cleaned in accordance with NADCA standards.

• Be sure this is all documented on the bill of sale.

For more information and to find a certified NADCA member, visit www.nadca.com.

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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 40 | Number 12 | December 17, 2013

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

Mayor James Sexton congratulates Evergreen Park Widget Stallions

by Matt Mayer

The brief Dec. 2 Evergreen Park Board of Trustees meeting commenced with Mayor James Sexton congratulating the Evergreen Park Widget Stallions who are this years super bowl champions as well as Jim Giovanazzi owner of Horizon Music at 10036 S. Kedzie Avenue for their 50th years in Evergreen Park. Sexton also congratulated the board of management of the Maria Knopnicka Polish Language School on their 40th anniversary.

Other highlights: an ordinance levying taxes for the general corporate fund for the fiscal year beginning Nov. 1 2012 to Oct. 31, 2013 as well as an ordinance levying taxes for the library for fiscal year Jan 1, 2013 to Dec. 31 2013. An ordinance amending a chapter of the municipal code regarding streets and sidewalks was approved. The amendment provides for the care, placement, and protection of trees on the village right-of way.

The City of Chicago will once again raise their water rate by 15-percent and this increase will be passed on to residents. The village will increase water rate by 15 percent due to Chicago raising their water rate. A request from Queen of Martyrs for a 5K Run/2K Walk on Saturday March 8, 2014 was approved. The month of December was proclaimed "Drunk and Drugged Driving" (3D) Prevention Month.

OL approves term limit referendum for elected officials on March ballot

by Matt Mayer

Several hot button issues dominated the Dec. 10 Oak lawn Board of Trustees meeting one of which was a resolution to place a referendum on the March election ballot regarding term limits. The referendum, if passed, would limit newly elected or reelected officials who seek office in 2015 including the mayor village clerk and trustees to three consecutive terms or 12 years. The resolution passed 4-2, Trustees Streit and Quinlan dissented. Quinlan said she would have voted yes if Mayor Sandra Bury had concurred with her motion to remove two paragraphs referring to "promoting diversity in office holders" and "urgency in forming and implementing policies".

Prior to the vote Trustee Bob Streit said. "This is a question everyone knows before you put it on the ballot. everyone knows the answer to it", said Streit. When voters are asked if they want term limits. they do. It's the lack of confidence they have in elected officials especially in Washington and Springfield", said Streit.

Bury reprimanded Streit for not staying on the topic of term limits. Streit became angry and said, "Please stop interrupting me. My points are very much to the issues before us and the people need to hear them, said Streit. Bury asked Streit if his comments pertain to term limits. "You need to stay on topic," said Bury. Streit responded by saying an elected official can make his or her own pledge to serve a limited number of terms. He added, "Maybe the voters can decide whether they want to keep you or not". Bury called Streit out of order when he asked if the voters should be asked via referendum about the level of fire department staffing.

Trustee Quinlan said that Mayor Bury's new blog was political. "It should not include the village hall's address and phone number - it's not a village blog. It's political", said Quinlan. She went onto say that the mayor's blog should report village news, but it includes personal and political attacks. Bury responded. "Everything on there is factual. My name is on it, and people have a right to know what their mayor's position is. I will state my feelings on issues.",

Justice reports good news for renewal of Employee Insurance

by Jan Glaz

Mr. Anthony Way from the Assurance Agency attended the Village of Justice President and Board of Trustees Meeting on December 9th and disclosed details of the Village's work Comp and Liability insurance renewal policy. Anthony quoted the expiring premium at $210,131.00 and the renewal premium at $211.082.00, representing less than 1% of a change. From a market stand point, announced Mr. Way, "We're seeing on average about 5 to 7% increases in the market place. From a deductible stand point it's really an apple to apples renewal with no changes to your expiring program." Trustee Ed Rusch Jr. offered a heap of thanks to the Assurance Agency, as the Village could have been facing high increases. "Good news," said Trustee Rusch. The Board of Trustees than unanimously approved the renewal of the Liability, Property and Casualty and Work Comp instirance package as quoted and presented by the Assurance Agency, with an effective date of December 31, 2013.

Trustee Sue Small introduced a motion that carried approving changes to the specific terms of the Lipinski Center Rental Agreement and to implement those changes effective immediately for any and all parties/rentals placed on the schedule from December 10, 2013. There is a change in the fee for liquor. A 5 hour minimum liquor fee of $100 will be assessed if liquor will be consumed on the premises. Each additional hour of Center rental or liquor use will be charged at a separate rate of $50 per hour. This fee will ensure that the Justice Police Department will be notified of your event and an officer may periodically stop in as time permits, and will be present at the close of the party. The Lipinski Center is located at 7256 Skyline Drive in Justice and the new agreement is posted on the Lipinski Center website www.villageofjustice.org/lipinski_center or contact 708-458-2130."

Trustee Rick Symonds motion A Resolution Authorizing the Assignment by Disposal Waste Services, LLC, To Groot Industries, Inc., of a contract for solid waste collection, recycling and disposal services received a positive vote as did a motion introduced by Trustee Henry Oszakiewski for a business license for Unique Resale Shop doing business at 8533 W. 79th Street.

Special endnote: Sue Small reported and the Board agreed that due to the Christmas Holiday the Regular Board Meeting of December 23rd is cancelled. The Second Regular Board Meeting of December will be tentatively rescheduled for Monday, December 30th at a specific time to be determined by the Board of Trustees and properly noticed.

Hickory Hills signs with American Express for ten percent Cash Rebate

by Jan Glaz

Alderman Tom McAvoy raised the issue of paying various city bills, such as water bills, by Credit Card at the City Council Meeting held on December 12th. The cash-back from paying bills by credit card can mount to thousands of dollars a year. The idea was suggested to McAvoy by a resident of Bedford Park, Illinois. City Clerk D'Lorah Catizone said the city has signed with American Express. The credit card offers 10% cash back, which may bring in several hundred a month. Catizone also mentioned that not all companies or municipalities will accept bill paying by credit card.

Alderman McAvoy announced that the Annual Sertoma Club Christmas Raffle is at hand, an event occurring in Hickory Hills for decades. Sertoma stands for Service to Mankind and is a social service organization dedicated to helping the hearing impaired and youth in general. The drawing for the raffle will be held on Sunday, December 22nd. The ticket price is $1.00 each or 6 for $5.00. The 1st place prize is $300.00; 2nd place $150.00; and 3rd place $50.00. McAvoy's motto, 'take a chance for a good cause and make your Christmas a little more Merry'. Contact Alderman Tom McAvoy at: aldermanmcavoy@hickoryhillsil.org

Meeting endnotes: Alderman Brian Waight announced that O'Reilly Auto Parts located at 8715 W. 95th Street will be opening in Hickory Hills January 18th and that Ambalal Patel has taken over the Subway store located at 8615 W. 95th Street, from its previous owner. A beauty salon is opening at 8859 S. Roberts Road, owner Meriem Volina and Alliance Shippers, providing cargo blankets for shipping, will be doing business at 7707-09 West 89th Street. City Clerk Catizone reminded all present that the City Council Meeting scheduled for December 26th is cancelled, due to the holidays.

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 24 | December 17, 2013

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Pop's Painting wins Orland bid by five dollars

by Jan Glaz

The Twin Towers Sanctuary1898 by William Arthur Bennett is a contributing structure to the Old Orland Historic District in the Queen Anne style. The building is also an Orland Park Landmark listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Board of Trustees approved an Appearance Improvement Grant application for $2,772.50 to repaint and repair the north elevation of the Twin Towers Sanctuary on December 2nd, 2013. Back in October, a Certificate of Appropriateness was approved for the Old Orland Heritage Foundation to re-paint the two towers of the sanctuary as well as the upper mezzanine of the north elevation's wall between the towers and to repair woodwork under the eaves on that upper mezzanine. The Appearance Improvement Grant notes that the best or lowest bid is to be selected to fund the project. In this case, two bids were submitted: both similar in scope and price: Scaccia Decorating Co., $5,550 and Pop's Painting and Maintenanee Inc., $5,545. Pop's Painting is the low hid by $5 and therefore it was approved. The Old Orland Heritage Foundation is the preservationist society operating and maintaining the Twin Towers Sanctuary by easement and the Hope Covenant Church owns the property on which the Twin Towers stand.

Orland officials also agreed to authorize a salary adjustment to the Village Manager's salary. The Village Manager works for the Village under a separate employment agreement. The last contract extension in 2011 provided for cost-of-living increases, and his current salary is $147,102 per year. In August 2012, the Village Board discussed and planned to increase the manager's salary to $155,000, effective January 1, 2013. Said increase was requested by the manager to be placed on hold pending market adjustments to the salaries of executive staff.

Endnotes: A contract with Kimley-Horn and Associates of Chicago, Illinois in the amount not to exceed $50,000.00 for the Main Street District Traffic/Parking Consultant Services met with Board approval as well as a proposal from Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. of Rosemont, Illinois for the 151st Street - Ravinia Avenue to West Avenue - Widening and Reconstruction Phase I Engineering Services, in the amount not to exceed $219,998.89.

Oak Forest Officials hike Wastewater Collection Rate

by Jan Glaz

In a move to cover the cost of wastewater collection service in the City of Oak Forest the City Council approved an Ordinance to establish raising fees pertaining to sewer rates on December 10th at the Village of Oak Forest City Council Meeting. Finance Director Colleen M. Julian brought attention to the fact that sewer rates have not been raised since May of 2010 and revenue generated in that fund is insufficient to cover the cost of operations. In the City of Oak Forest revenue policies require that the Water and Sewer Fund be self-supporting and in addition to the sewer rate, the City Council voted to raise water rates as well. An expected 19% rise in the cost of water supplied from the City of Chicago and the Village of Oak Lawn in the amount of $.58 per 1,000 gallons is set to incur on January 1st. Two tiers are proposed in regards to cost and volume of water supplied: Tier 1 is $7.31 per 1,000 gallons, or a $.66 increase and tier 2 is $8.21 per 1,000 gallons, or a $.85 increase. The increased sewer rate per 1,000 gallons is $1.73, or an increase of $.21. New rates are effective January 1, 2014.

Meeting postscript: City Administrator Troy Ishler supplied details surrounding the purchase of a new Rotary model FM-10 front jack assembly hoist by Standard Industrial & Auto Equipment, Inc., of Hanover Park, Illinois for $10,918.51. The hoist is used by the Puhlic Works Department. "The hoist is very old, has failed and has actually been condemned, "said Troy. The hoist will be paid for through the Capital Improvement Equipment Fund.

The council also authorized the sale of two 2003 vehicles no longer needed by the City of Oak Forest: a Chevrolet Impala and a Ford Crown Victoria.

Tinley Park reports zero percent increase in Property Tax Levy

by Jan Glaz

Recently at the Tinley Park Board of Trustees meeting Trustee Seaman disclosed information in regards to the property tax levy. The property tax levy request for 2013 will be set at $25,541,964, which represents a 0% increase over the previous year's extension. Seaman stated that the levy amount is net of the abatements of debt service considered in Ordinances in a total amount of $5,707,000. Abatements serve to reduce taxes and if funds were not abated, the total required levy would he $31,248,064 and would represent an increase of 22%. In addition, the Village of Tinley Park's portion of the levy amounts to $19,980,020. This amount is $339,660 lower than the Village's traditional levy formula would permit. The Tinley Park Public Library portion of the levy amounts to $5,561,944 and is also unchanged from the prior year. Furthermore, since the levy increase is less than 5% of the prior years extended levy, a Truth in Taxation notice and Public Heuring are not required. For more information on how Tax Levy abatements save residents money contact Jason Freeman, Public Information Coordinator (708) 444-5042, jfreeman@tinleypark.org;

Village Clerk Rea introduced Kelly Johnson; winning photographer of the 2013 Holiday Card. Kelly's photo displays an Old Fashioned Carriage passing by the Oak Park Avenue Train Station during the holiday season, the photograph will be featured on the 2014 Village Holiday Card. Traditionally, residents buy the cards to send to others. The card, a collector's item, also provides the history of the railroad in the Village. Kelly Johnson was presented with a check: graciously, Kelly donated the check back to the Village.

Honorable mention: The Village of Tinley Park recognized Fire Department Personnel for life saving actions on May 13, 2013. The Fire Departments successfully rescued a victim from a residential structure fire on Piute Trail. Trustee Maher announced that the entire operation at this incident had a very positive outcome. "The teamwork displayed by all crews once again shows the integrity, knowledge and skills that our firefighters have."

Preschoolers from Orland Park's Lunch & More sing Christmas carols in front of the Township's Christmas tree.

Orland Preschoolers donate food and music to holiday program

The shelves in the Orland Township Food Pantry have been filling up quickly this holiday season thanks to generous donations from people of all ages- even preschoolers!

The children of Orland Park's Lunch & More recently stopped by the Township to deliver cans of food, making it the third year the program has donated to the Food Pantry. After the four and five year old dropped off their donations in the Pantry's sorting room, they gathered by the Christmas tree to sing carols, filling the room with the tunes of "Jingle Bells" and "Frosty the Snowman."

Lunch & More is an enrichment program for preschool children that strives to stimulate creativity and define fine-motor skills by immersing students in activities centered around monthly themes. To reinforce this month's theme, "The Gift of Giving," students were encouraged to donate food to the Orland Township Food Pantry. More than 35 children donated items, with a total of 88 canned goods given to the Township's Holiday 2013 Program.

Supervisor Paul O'Grady and the Board of Trustees would like to send a special "thank you" to the children, parents and teachers of Lunch & More for their generous donations this holiday season.

To see the pictures and videos from the event, visit Supervisor Paul O'Grady and the Township on Facebook, www.facebook.com/supervisorogrady. Thank you to everybody who has made our Holiday 2013 Program a success so far, and happy holidays!

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SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 14 | Number 24 | December 17, 2013

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Worth approves Vehicle Sticker ordinance amendment

by Matt Mayer

An ordinance amending a section, title and chapter regarding water and waste service rates and changes to the municipal code was approved at the Dec. 3 Worth Board of Trustees meeting. The amendment reflects the City of Chicago's water increase. The village is only passing on the Chicago increase to residents. The increase equates to approximately 23 cents per thousand gallons. An ordinance amending a title of the municipal code pertaining to vehicle stickers was approved. This amendment requires that village stickers be placed on the lower right portion of the windshield.

Other highlights: Mayor Werner said that there are a group of physics students from Alan B. Shepard High School who created a Solar-Powered bio-diesel facility in Crestwood. There will be an open house at the Crestwood Public Works building on Dec. 27 from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. This student project will save the Village of Crestwood some $5,000 per year on their fuel costs, said Werner. At the time of this writing the high school website had no information posted regarding this event. Information may be obtained by calling the school at 708.371.1111.

Public Safety Committee Trustee Solden reported the police activity for the month of November as follows: The police department tracked up 12.761 miles on our vehicles; 980 police calls for service; 451 traffic citations issued; 31 drivers were cited for uninsured motor vehicles, failure to wear seat belts and other equipment violations. 94 citations were written for no village sticker or failure to display a current sticker and 17 criminal arrests were made. The village collected fees in the amount of $40. 966.00.

Golf Course Committee Trustee Muersch said that the regular operation of the Waters Edge Restaurant would be closed for the winter months. However parties will continue to be welcomed. The day-to-day operation will be closed in an effort to save money, said Muersch.

Their research and the final report was presented to village officials. Although no details were released regarding the content of the report, officials unanimously approved the final report from the committee and referred it to the plan commission for review.

Mahoney said that the Plan Commission could hold a public hearing at their January meeting to discuss the report. The plan commission could then hold a vote and accept the document and schedule a public meeting.

Other highlights: A contract with Carefree Systems for $500.00 for the spring turn on 2014 and the winter shutdown 2014 of the landscaping sprinkler system at the Metra Station was approved as well as a ordinance amending a part, a title, chapter and section of the municipal code pertaining to waste water collection charges. The ordinance establishes the rate charged for single-family residential waste collection through March 31, 2021.

An ordinance providing for the aequisition of certain real estate on Saint Moritz Drive through eminent domain or otherwise was approved. The ordinance states that the property at 18 Saint Moritz Drive is needed by the village as a portion of the Cal-Sag Greenway Bike Trail to be developed in accordance with the village's portion of the intergovernmental bicycle trail project.

Palos Park ad-hoc fence committee completes report

by Matt Mayer

Mayor John Mahoney announced at the Dec. 9 Palos Park Village Council meeting that the Palos Park ad-hoc fence committee has completed

Lookingglass Theatre Company extendeds The Little Prince due to early ticket demand

On sale now through February 23, 2014.

Lookingglass Theatre Company announces an extension of The Little Prince, produced in Association with The Actors Gymnasium, by Rick Cummins and John Scoullar, based on the book by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, and directed by Ensemble Member David Catlin. The show now runs through Sunday, February 23, 2014 due to advance ticket demand. The three-week extension goes on sale to the public on Thursday, December 12. The Little Prince runs at Lookingglass Theatre Company, located inside Chicago's historic Water Tower Water Works, 821 N. Michigan Ave. at Pearson. The Press Opening is Saturday, Deeember 14, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.

Stuck, thirsty and alone. A pilot stranded in the Sahara Desert meets an enigmatic, charismatic young prince fallen from the sky who regales him with tales of life among the stars: tales with earthly importance. In this visually arresting, fully immersive theatrical interpretation of the beloved French novella, director David Catlin (creator of Lookingglass Alice) illustrates the story with fantastic characters and gravity-defying, awe-inspiring physical feats.

The Little Prince speaks – in breathtaking splendor – to the eastaway in all of us: challenging our perspective, opening our eyes and bringing us back to the heart of what truly matters.

"Everyone who saw and thrilled to David's Lookingglass Alice will remember his penchant for creating stories that are full to bursting with spectacles of pure delight and inventiveness, " says Artistic Director Andrew White. "He'll be bringing all of that unmatched creativity and passion to this internationally beloved story, creating a show that truly will appeal to audiences of all ages -- to parents as well as their kids, to grandparents and grandchildren, to anyone who, as David puts it, has found themselves at some point in their lives stuck, thirsty and alone - and who hasn't?"

"I love The Little Prince because it has something for all ages. Kids will dig the strange characters and the intergalactic story. Teens and college kids will connect with the impending responsibility of becoming a grown-up. And grown-ups will identify with our lonely Aviator who crashes in the Sahara Desert a thousand miles from anyone and anywhere with barely enough water for a week," comments director David Catlin. "In this crisis, our Aviator needs the wisdom of a child—a Little Prince-- to remember that 'what is essential is invisible to the eye' and the importance of cultivating ties with others."

The cast includes Ensemble Member Raymond Fox (King), Artistic Associates Lauren Hirte (Desert Rose) and Louise Lamson (Rose) with Ian Barford (Aviator), Amelia Hefferon (Little Prince), Kareem Bandealy (Snake), Adeoye (Lamp Lighter) and Kasey Foster (Fox).

The design team includes Artistic Associates Rick Sims (sound) and Sylvia Hernandez-DiStasi (acrobatic/circus choreography) with Courtney O'Neill (set), Salley Dolembo (costumes), William Kirkham (lighting), Maria DeFabo (Properties), Lee Brasuell (rigger), Tess Golden (Stage Manager) and Kelsey Lamm (Assistant Stage Manager).

The production sponsor for The Little Prince is Allstate, which is also the sponsor of the Education Programs for the production.

Lookingglass Theatre is located in the heart of the Magnificent Mile shopping district inside Chicago's historic Water Tower Water Works, 821 N. Michigan Ave. at Pearson. Discounted parking is available for Lookingglass patrons at both the nearby John Hancock Center and Olympia Centre Self Park (161 E. Chicago Ave.).

Buy online at www.lookingglasstheatre.org or by phone at (312) 337-0665.

The Lookingglass box office is located at Water Tower Water Works, 821 N. Michigan Ave.

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B-MAC EDITION

Volume 7 | Number 24 | December 17, 2013

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Crestwood Mayor awards 2014 scavenger licenses

by Jan Glaz

Congratulations to the Scavenger Service applicants awarded licenses for the year 2014: A public hearing was held November 25. 2013 pursuant to legal notice and all applicants and interested persons were afforded an opportunity to be heard and to present documentation. evidence or testimony in support of, or in opposition to, any applications filed for the 2014 Village of Crestwood Scavenger Service. Crestwood Mayor Louis Presta reviewed the applications and information filed. and having considered the record. determined that the public welfare and convenience will be served by the issuance of scavenger licenses for the year 2014 to: Republic Services/ Allied Waste of Crestwood; Homewood Disposal Service. Inc., d/b/a NuWay Disposal Service. Inc.. Homewood. IL: Tri- State Disposal. Inc., Riverdale IL: Waste Management of Illinois. Inc.. Lombard IL: and I-Corp d/b/a Environmental Recycling & Disposal. Rockdale. IL. The Board of Trustees unanimously approved the applications and awarded the licenses at the December 5th Village of Crestwood Board of Trustees Meeting.

The Board of Trustees voted against directing the Village Attorney to prepare a Special Use Ordinance to permit a Tattoo and Body Piercing Shop to be located at 12740 Cal Sag Road. However. the Village Attorney did receive authorization to prepare a Special Use Ordinance to permit Insurance Sales; special use is required as it is not specifically provided for in the Commercial Zoning District to be located at 5419 W. 127th Street.

Noteworthy: The Board approved and passed an Ordinance approving an Agreement for Non-Exclusive License of Property by the Village of Crestwood to Crestwood Professional Baseball. LLC. Also. a motion carried to consider bids for the purchase of one Ford Escape in an amount estimated at $19,178.00 and to direct the Village Attorney to prepare a resolution authorizing the purchase of an ambulance. An agreement extension for a period of six months between Eight South Group. LLC and the Village of Crestwood for consulting services met with approval as well as an Ordinance Amending the Liquor Control Act of the Crestwood Village code.

Gas Station on hold for Alsip Liquor License

by Jan Glaz

It's a bit of a glitch waiting for a liquor license on the eve of the holiday season. At the Alsip Board of Trustees Meeting held on December 2nd Mayor Patrick Kitching announced the request for approval of an Ordinance Amending the Number of Certain Liquor Licenses. a required step to allow for a liquor license for the Shell Station at 123rd & Cicero. The Board of Trustees agreed to approve the amendment but the Ordinance is contingent upon a change in zoning status from B-1 to B-3. Afterward. Mayor Kitching decided to remove an item from the agenda set for Board approval: a Resolution Regarding the Class 7a Real Estate Tax Incentive Application for Russell J. Findlay for property located at 11541 S. Pulaski Road. Kitching explained first. that Mr. Findlay was out of town and second. too many questions surround the application.

Newsworthy items: Prior to the Board of Trustee Meeting on Monday December 2nd at 6:30 p.m. at the Village Hall. Alsip celebrated the Village's Annual Tree Lighting ceremony. Mayor Kitching showered the Girl Scouts with many thanks for making the tree decorations possible. Refreshments were served after the festivities. A few business events are scheduled for the New Year: the opening of the newly built Advance Auto Parts store at 115th and Pulaski: the redeveloped Speedway on 127th and Pulaski; and at the property previously known as Frosty Mug. 11541 S. Pulaski. a new business named 'Demon Dawgs' will be opening sometime in January; the 'Demon' is rumored to have a superb menu. Before the meeting adjourned Police Chief Chris Radz announced that even though the Police Department has been approved to purchase two vehicles they will wait until the 2014 models arrive. The Department is looking to purchase either the Ford Explorer or the Ford Taurus models. "Our current vehicles are really taxed out there," said Radz "I just want to get across the finish line as soon as possible."

Midlothian resident battles to solve flood problem

by Jan Glaz

During the Public Forum session of the Village of Midlothian Board of Trustees Meeting on December 11th. Midlothian resident Helen Lekavich. who is actively seeking to make changes and leaves no stone unturned in her quest to remedy the consistent flooding problems occurring at her and her neighbor's homes. and other areas of Midlothian. discussed with Mayor Sharon Rybak. the Board and Village Superintendent Hansen the latest developments in the painstaking process to qualify for aid within the Cook County Multi-Jurisdictional All Hazards Mitigation Plan. Of interest. Helen described a new device that will be available in the war on flooding. The device is a measuring stick for troubled areas. it can be placed in the lower level of a home or in the garage and the minute water hits it data is gathered that will feed into the county. state. village. or whoever is plugged into the system. The database records every aspect of an occurrence: Where and when water is happening. how deep and fast it is coming... Cook County can then observe the data. Ms. Lekavich is urging residents to attend all mitigation meetings posted on the Village Website or at www.cookcountyhomelandsecurity.org/hazard-mitigation-plan. In addition. on the Cook County homeland and security website is a survey residents can submit electronically. Village Superintendent Hansen said that the Village website also has a survey for residents to print out and send in to the county. Across the county 5,000 surveys are required. Hansen commented. "It is important to get the word out."

Newsworthy end note. Trustee Karen Kreis reported that on December 6th she had submitted another grant application to the Illinois Housing Development Authority in relation to abandoned residential properties municipality program. The Midlothian grant was one of a number of grants submitted by neighboring municipalities. The South Suburban Land Bank gathered all the individual grant applications and submitted them as one towards obtaining the funds. Midlothian has requested 3 residential demolitions and if the grant is awarded it will also reimburse the maintenance costs that the Village has incurred on vacant and abandoned properties back to 2012, said Kreis.

Kerr Middle School hosting Mother Daughter Empowerment Conference

Kerr Middle . School in Blue Island. along with Metropolitan Family Services. is hosting a Mother/Daughter Empowerment Conference at the Blue Island Park District. located at 12804 S. Highland Avenue in Blue Island. on Saturday. January 18 from 9 am to noon for girls ages 11 and up and their adult female family members. This free event is set to include women speakers who have overcome struggles to gain success. mother/daughter bonding activities and information on issues concerning women and girls as well as programs offered by local colleges. A raffle and free breakfast will also be provided.

The Mother/Daughter Empowerment Conference is also seeking donations from the community to help create raffle gift baskets. Items including books. art materials. games and puzzles. spa products. hair accessories. jewelry. gift cards and event decorations and food items are needed.

To make a donation or for additional information. please contact Amanda Baxtrom at 708-385-5959. ext. 8220 or email abaxtrom@district130.org. To RSVP please visit the event Facebook page at www.eventbrite.com/e/girls-day-mom-me-tickets-9673649145.

Cook County School District 130 serves nearly 4.100 students at thirteen school sites. The district serves portions of the communities of: Alsip. Blue Island. Crestwood and Robbins.

Green Bay breaks ground on major convention center expansion

Wisconsin Governor, Scott Walker, Green Bay Mayor Jim Schmitt and Greater Green Bay Convention & Visitors Bureau President/CEO Brad Toll broke ground on a $23 million addition to the K1 Convention Center.

"Green Bay will be able to attract and host larger conventions from across the country with the expanded center", Mayor Schmitt stated. "This expansion will be an economic driver for Green Bay , and we are very excited to get underway with the project."

The expansion is expected to be completed June 2015. The center will include a 24,500 square foot ballroom, three additional meeting rooms of 5,330 square feet. The expansion will provide 30,700 square feet of new meeting space bringing the center up to near 80,000 square feet. It will be able to host 3,000 people for a meeting and 2,000 for a meal.

" Green Bay is a popular destination for convention attendees and vacationers alike." said Brad Toll, President/CEO of the Greater Green Bay CVB. "The Green Bay Packers have provided our community with world-wide notoriety and, it seems, everyone that visits is very curious about this fan-owned professional sports franchise. Convention groups often see their attendance grow in Green Bay ."

The convention center expansion will be elevated over a street and an adjacent parking lot, providing sprawling views of the city and of the Fox River . A beautiful plaza for relaxing will double as outdoor reception space. The headquarter hotel, Hyatt on Main anchors one side of the center, and the Clarion Hotel will be connected to the opposite side of the facility.

"I am very excited to share this great facility and the Greater Green Bay area with meeting planners," said Beth Ropson, Director of Sales for the CVB. "With this expansion located along the beautiful Fox River , we have a great setting for planners to consider. The City of Green Bay has done a marvelous job of developing the riverfront, providing planners with a great setting on the CityDeck to host receptions with musical entertainment. Dining options abound, from five stars to great sports bars (with a Packers theme, of course) and micro-breweries."

It's well-known that Green Bay is home to one of the most iconic sports facilities in the world, historic Lambeau Field. Renovations in 2013 make it possible for conventions to hold events and meetings for groups of 10 to 80,000 in a wide variety of first class spaces.

To learn more about the K1 Convention Center expansion and the meetings and conventions product in Green Bay , contact the Greater Green Bay Convention & Visitors Bureau at 888-867-3342 or visit online at www.greenbay.com/convention_planner.

Insurance companies ignoring customers

by Kelly White

Taking out a life insurance policy on yourself or loved ones is a good idea to protect you on future financial burdens, but who is going to let you or your loved ones know your policy exists once something tragic happens?

MetLife, Lincoln Insurance Company, Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company (MassMutual Life Insurance) and A.A.R.P. are a few of the big names behind not informing their customers of their financial entitlement on life insurance policies and long term care policies.

Consumers feel insurance companies are seeking original signage onto a contractual agreement with a company, with initial large sum payments, but after the policy is paid up, they are receiving little to no contact with these companies. The term "paid up" in life insurance really mean that you have built enough cash value where you don't have to pay your premiums for a while. The catch is, your life insurance is still enforced and someone has to pay the annual premiums; so, the insurance company takes money from your cash value to pay for it. If you die someday, your family will get the death benefit minus whatever cash value was taken (including the interest charged on the cash value). When your cash value is near depletion, you will get a letter that your life insurance policy is in endangered of being lapse. If you do not pay the premiums, you will lose coverage.

This lack of communication between insurance companies and policy holders has left consumers upset. "Once you have a paid up policy, years can go by without even hearing from them," one senior citizen said on behalf of MetLife.

MetLife, offering both life insurance and long term care policies, that can be paid monthly or annually are designed to be paid through an agency. The agency is responsible for letting their client know if their payment was due. One major complaint among senior citizens, regarding MetLife, was the lack of communication between customers and insurance companies or, in this particular case, agencies. Seniors stated having to reach out and contact their own agency every month or year to find out when their payment is due, because of never receiving a paper statement from the company. If a payment is missed, MetLife is eligible to keep the amount the policy holder has contributed to the policy thus far, and the account will be cancelled. There is a 30-day grace period for missed payments, but some seniors cut it close to the deadline when they do not receive notification from the company reminding them when a payment is due, and they forget to call. "I have a payment due on January 2nd, and I still have not received anything yet, stating that I owe a payment, and I probably won't," one senior said.

Seniors also argue with paid up life insurance policies through MetLife, the insurance company does not notify them what their dividends are or what their policy is. Once life insurance policies are paid up, is it a common theme among companies to not inform policy holders what they are financially entitled to? One senior stated, on behalf of Lincoln Insurance Company, they are supposed to receive a letter once a year on their paid up life insurance policy, informing them of the amount of money in their account, but since the account has been paid up a few years ago, they have received nothing but a thank you letter for being a client.

Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company

(Continued on next page)

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We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays
from the Village View
Publications, Inc.
and Staff

(Continued from previous page)

(MassMutual Life Insurance Company) does keep in contact with their clients, but only at their discretion. A senior with a $1600 annual life insurance bill, claims to receive a bill the same week as the due date, stating to need more notice for that large of payment. With MassMutual Life Insurance Company, if you skip a payment, you forfeit your policy and the insurance company gets to keep all the money contributed into the policy thus far.

So, why are insurance companies so aggressive on obtaining money originally but once a policy is paid up, a client receives little to no communication with the company? What if a senior citizen develops Alzheimer's or dementia and is unable to remember what insurance companies they have they have policies with? What if a family member passes away and the information regarding insurance policy information is not in their will, who is responsible for notifying the family upon death?

Senior citizens need to take a proactive approach with these insurance policies, keeping in contact on a regular basis. Once a policy is paid up, contact can drift or even be lost, and if forgotten, that money will not be dispersed to the proper people entitled to it financially. Let your family members be aware of which companies and through who you have insurance policies with. Don't let companies take advantage of you and don't let your money sit with companies who refuse to inform you of your benefits.

As one senior put it best, insurance companies are a confusing mess.

High School Entrance Exams, Open Houses, advertise in our January 7, 2014 issue.
Call Linda for details at 708-425-1910.

Jingle Bell Bingo

Children ages five and up join in for an hour of Jingle Bell Bingo and win candy prizes at the Palos Park Public Library on Thursday, December 19 at 4:30 p.m. No registration necessary. The library is located at 12330 Forest Glen Blvd. Palos Park, IL.

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Out and About

with Kelly White

Alsip

The Alsip Park District is offering a Health Check on Friday, December 27th from 9:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. at the Apollo Recreation Center, 12521 S Kostner Avenue. Over 40 health tests are available for only $50. To schedule an appointment, contact Healthchek at 219-322-7041 or 1-800-915-4583. For test information, visit their website at www.healthchek.net.

Midlothian

Wild About Dinosaurs will take place on Friday, December 27th for children ages 3-7yrs at the Midlothian Public Library, 14701 South Kenton Avenue. Registration is required; for more information, please call 708-535-2027.

Blue Island

Karate Kids is beginning registration for kids ages 5- 16yrs at Memorial Park Banquet Hall, 12804 Highland Avenue, for a $30 fee for residents and a $45 fee for non-residents. Classes begin February 19th through March 26th. For more information, please call 708-385-3304.

Oak Forest

Christmas Arts and Crafts Workshop will be taking place on Sunday, December 21st from 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. at the Don Gorman Rec Center, 4412 Henry Street, for children ages 5-13yrs, with an $8 fee for residents and a $12 fee for non-residents. For more information, please call 708-687-7270.

Girls Only Pajama Party will be taking place on Friday, December 27th from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the Central Park Building, 15601 South Central Avenue for girls ages 5-10yrs, with a $26 fee for residents and a $32 fee for non-residents. Girls will play games, polish nails, make crafts, snack and watch a movie. For more information, please call 708-687-7270.

Tinley Park

Go Game Night at the Tinley Park Library, 7851 Timber Drive, will take place on Monday, December 23rd from 6:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. Come learn about and meet up with experienced players of the board game Go- a strategy game not unlike chess or Parcheesi. Thousands of years old and wildly popular in China, Japan, and Korea, Game boards will be provided. This program is intended for all ages; however, children under the age of 17 must be accompanied by an adult. No registration required. For more information, please call 708-532-0160.

Dollhouse and Miniatures Show will be held on Tuesday, December 23rd at the Vogt Visual Arts Center, 17420 S. 67th Court, from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. For more information, please call 708-614-6503.

Worth

Senior Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, January 8th from noon until 2:00 p.m. at the Terrace Centre, 11500 South Beloit Avenue. Registration must be made by telephone one week prior at 708-448-7080.

Justice

Are you over 55 years of age and are interested in being active? If so, you can register to join the Justice Park District's new Club Active. To join you must be at least 55 years of age and register by filling out a short application you can obtain by visiting the Justice Community Center on 7747 South Oak Grove, Avenue, or call 708-458-1370 for a mailed copy.

Oak Lawn

Bailey's Crossing Dog Park, 9910 S. Melvina, is offering a Memorial Brick Program. The bricks are 4" x 8" and can be purchased for $75. There is a limit of two (2) lines of 13 characters per line (including spaces) per brick. A form along with more information can be found online at. For more information, please call Denise Iwinski at 708-857-2200.

Hickory Hills

Snowy Downhill Egg Hunt will be taking place on Friday, January 10th at Kasey Meadow Hill, 9151 South 82nd Avenue, from 6:00 p.m. until 7:15 p.m., for children 5-14yrs, with a $4 fee for residents and a $5 fee for non-residents. Participants will gather eggs from the sled hill while traveling down the hill in their inflatable sleigh. Eggs placed on the hill will contain a variety of prizes (candy, McDonald's gift certificates, and wonderful winter treats). What a great way to enjoy the entire sled hill for 75 minutes. Every participant must have their own sleigh (inflatable raft or inner tube) to participate. For more information, please call 708-430-6311.

Orland Park

Chilly Willie Chili Challenge will take place on Saturday, January 25th with the Public Tasting beginning at 2:00 p.m. at the Orland Park Civic Center, 14750 Ravinia Avenue, for a $5 all you can eat fee. For more information, please call 708-403-7275.

Palos Hills

Skate Under the Stars will take place on Friday, January 10th from 7:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. at Glacier Park, 101st and 76th Avenue, weather permitting. For more information, please call 708-430-4500.

Palos Park

Candy Cane Hunt will be taking place on Tuesday, January 14th from 4:15 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. at the Palos Park Recreation Department, 8901 West 123rd Street. Children will search for candy canes on the Village Green transformed into a candy forest. After participants collect all the various candy canes, they will head into the Recreation Center and enjoy sipping on hot chocolate, eating cookies, listening to holiday music, and making a candy cane craft. Pre-registration is required by Tuesday, January 7th. For more information, please call 708-671-3760.

Palos Heights

New Year Celebration will be held on Tuesday, December 31st from 10:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. The Palos Heights Recreation Center will be transformed into a mini Times Square complete with music, a balloon drop and a countdown to noon. A pizza lunch and fun New Year's activities for families with children 10 years and under will be provided. Please register at the Recreation Center, 7607 West College Drive.

City of Oak Forest announces opening of train station

The City of Oak Forest is pleased to announce that it will open its new Metra train station on Friday, December 20. A ribbon cutting ceremony will be held in the afternoon to commemorate the opening.

"I can't think of a better Christmas gift for

(Continued on next page)

Merry Christmas To All

From the Village of Evergreen Park

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(Continued from previous page)

commuters," said Mayor Hank Kuspa. "They have been very patient throughout the construction of the train station. We look forward to bringing more amenities to this area for commuters, residents and visitors to enjoy as we continue to create a dynamic, transit- oriented development at 159th and Cicero Avenue."

The new train station has significant architectural details and elongated canopies with prominent columns. It includes a warming shelter, bike parking and lockers, restroom facilities, indoor/outdoor seated waiting areas, and a geothermal heating system – one of many environmentally friendly features. Landscaping around the train station will be completed in the spring.

"We hope commuters and residents can take pride in this new Oak Forest landmark," said Community Development Director Adam Dotson. "While the train station is a symbol of our future, it also celebrates our past. For more than 100 years, the station has played a pivotal role in the growth of this community and it will continue to do so by welcoming visitors and inviting them to explore our neighborhoods, businesses and recreational areas."

In addition to TIF monies, the train station was funded by $2.3 million in federal and state grants. As part of the grant application process, the city received letters of support from former Illinois State Senator Maggie Crotty, Congressman Bobby Rush, Cook County Commissioner Joan Patricia Murphy, Metra, the Regional Transportation Authority, South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association, and the Illinois Department of Transportation.

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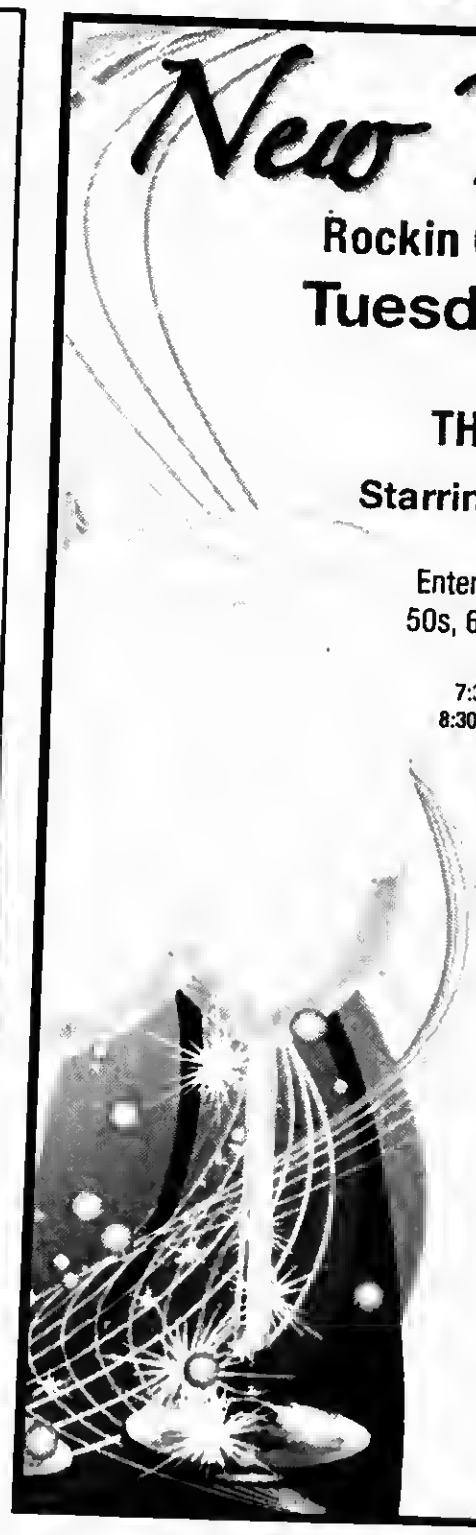
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Academic letter awards night at Oak Lawn Community High School

OLCHS Student Rakan Al-Adwan receives an Academic Letter from Superintendent/Principal Michael Riordan. Rakan earned at least a 3.75 grade-point for both semesters of the 2012-13 school year.

The administration of Oak Lawn Community High School awarded Academic Letters to students who earned at least a 3.75 grade-point for both semesters of the 2012-13 school year. The first year students received chenille "OL" lettermen patches embroidered with the "honors" distinction. Students who achieved the honor for a second or third year, were presented with certificates and gold chevron pins for their honor patches.

First year recipients - Lamees Abdallah, Jamilla Abdeljaber, Deya Abdeljaber, Fiona Agapito, Rakan Al-Adwan, Danielle Allen, Bridget Ayres, Brea Brennan, Melissa Buss, Brianna Castrogiovanni, Kaeley Clark, Alyssa Contino, Nicholas Dellorto, Daniel Dore, Natasha Ehrlicher, Shania Enriquez, Marcus Favila, Hannah Featherstone, Michael Felton, Kaylee Gattone, Jessica Gavras, Samantha Germann, Marissa Goliszewski, Aleksandra Gronski, Athmar Ibrahim, Xavier Jaequez-Flores, Jacob Janicke, Paige Jarzabkowski, Natalie Kaminski, Aseel Khatib, Kurt Kuzur, Kaylee LaCoco, Amanda Largent, Marisa Loya, Mia Loya, Nathan Lupescu, Kara Melvin, Val Molloy, Kennedy Moore, Ashanti Murillo, Kellie OConnor, Kaitlyn Osipczuk, Tariq Ouri, Molly Pajor, Tomasz Parzadka, Parth Patel, LeAnn Peschel, Ryan Quinn, Ahmed Ramadan, Jorge Ramirez, Steven Raybould, Linda Reyes, Stephanie Ricek, Michael Rodriguez, Matthew Roti, Ayman Salah, Taylor Schaar, Eric Sciaky, Markelle Scott, Javier Serna, Madilyn Seyller, Sophia Shader, Ahmed Shehata, Richard Sheppler, Khaloud Shuaibi, Danielle Smith, Trevor Spreadbury, Rebecca Suarez, Alexis Suarez, Justin Swatek, and Kelly Touchie.

Second year recipients - Ahmad Abdulla, Stiljan Agolli, Laura Akouris, Ciara Berry, Piotr Bilek, Marisa Castrogiovanni, Joseph Cosenza, Matthew Dunne, Elise Fetzer, Jamie Fionda, Noah Goebel, Mitchell Gonsch, Kali Graziano, Dana Greene, Melissa Greiman, Kelly Jalbert, Mustafa Kanan, Lukasz Kopec, Megan Kussurin, Andrew LaRusso, Gabriel Lira, Nicholas Minnella, Lauren Montesano, Cassandra Moustis, David Nejdl, Emmet Nugent, Sean Nugent, Sadik Odeh, Kristyn Oliver, Anna Oswald, Brian Pfister, Kathleen Plutz, Megan Pripusich, Mark Procter, Alyssa Radoicic, Nicholas Raymer, Richard Saldivar, Kenneth Schlesser, Elizabeth Stepp, Senad Sweis, Klaudia Swigon, Natalie Taylor, Casandra Teodoro, Juliet Torres, Afreen Yasin, and Matthew Zwolinski.

Third year recipients - Mohammad Abnosbie, Jacob Allen, Natalia Bak, Melissa Barragan, Stephanie Barragan, Musaab Bashir, Stephanie Brito-Miranda, Julia Bugaj, Jeffrey Burzinski, Nicholas Chovaneek, Martin Cisneros, Clarissa Dean, Jarad Fleming, Natalia Gawelda, Bushra Hamad, Jordan Hepburn, Haley Hiljus, Tara Hill, Morgan Jozsa, Daniel Kalinin, Kamile Lazauskaite, Amanda Leone, Rebecca Mackowiak, Maynard Dane Madriaga, Kathleen Maneillas, Kristen OConnor, David Oliver, Andrea Pacetti, Megan Pacetti, Kayla Reichert, John Saldivar, Emily Salomone, Adam Smith, Jason Snyder, Mitchell Swatek, Nayfah Thnaibat, Kelsey Townsend, Shelby Trybula, Isabel Valle, and Kamila Zaremba.

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Both services at 9:30am in the Fellowship Hall

Holiday Toy Drive to benefit children with Cancer

Area residents and businesses have an opportunity this holiday season to support children and teens fighting cancer by donating a new toy or gift during the Pediatric Oncology Treasure Chest Foundation (POTCF) annual Holiday Toy Drive.

The POTCF is a non-profit organization that provides comfort and distraction from painful procedures to children and teens diagnosed with cancer by providing a toy, gift or gift card in 45 hospitals nationwide. Nowhere else in the nation does such a program exist. CEO Colleen Kisel founded the organization in 1996 after her then seven-year-old son Martin had been diagnosed with leukemia in 1993. Ms. Kisel discovered that giving her son a toy after each procedure provided a calming distraction from his pain, noting that when children are diagnosed with cancer their world soon becomes filled with doctors, nurses, chemotherapy drugs, surgeries and seemingly endless painful procedures. Martin celebrated his 20th anniversary of remission from the disease earlier this year.

Ms. Kisel emphasized the importance of the Foundation's efforts by saying, "The toys we collect during this Holiday Toy Drive will enable us to continue providing smiles of joy to more than 8,600 children and teens monthly who are battling cancer across the nation."

Unwrapped, brand new toys or gifts may be dropped off until December 20th at these locations:

Crestwood Village Hall, 13840 S. Cicero Ave, Crestwood

First Midwest Bank, 13500 Cicero, Crestwood

Treasure Chest Foundation, 15430 70th Ct. Orland Park

Pigtails and Crewcuts, 14225 95th Ave. Ste 414, Orland Park

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If you would like further information about the Treasure Chest Foundation, please contact Colleen Kisel at 708-687-TOYS (8697) or visit the Foundation's web site at: www.treasurechest.org

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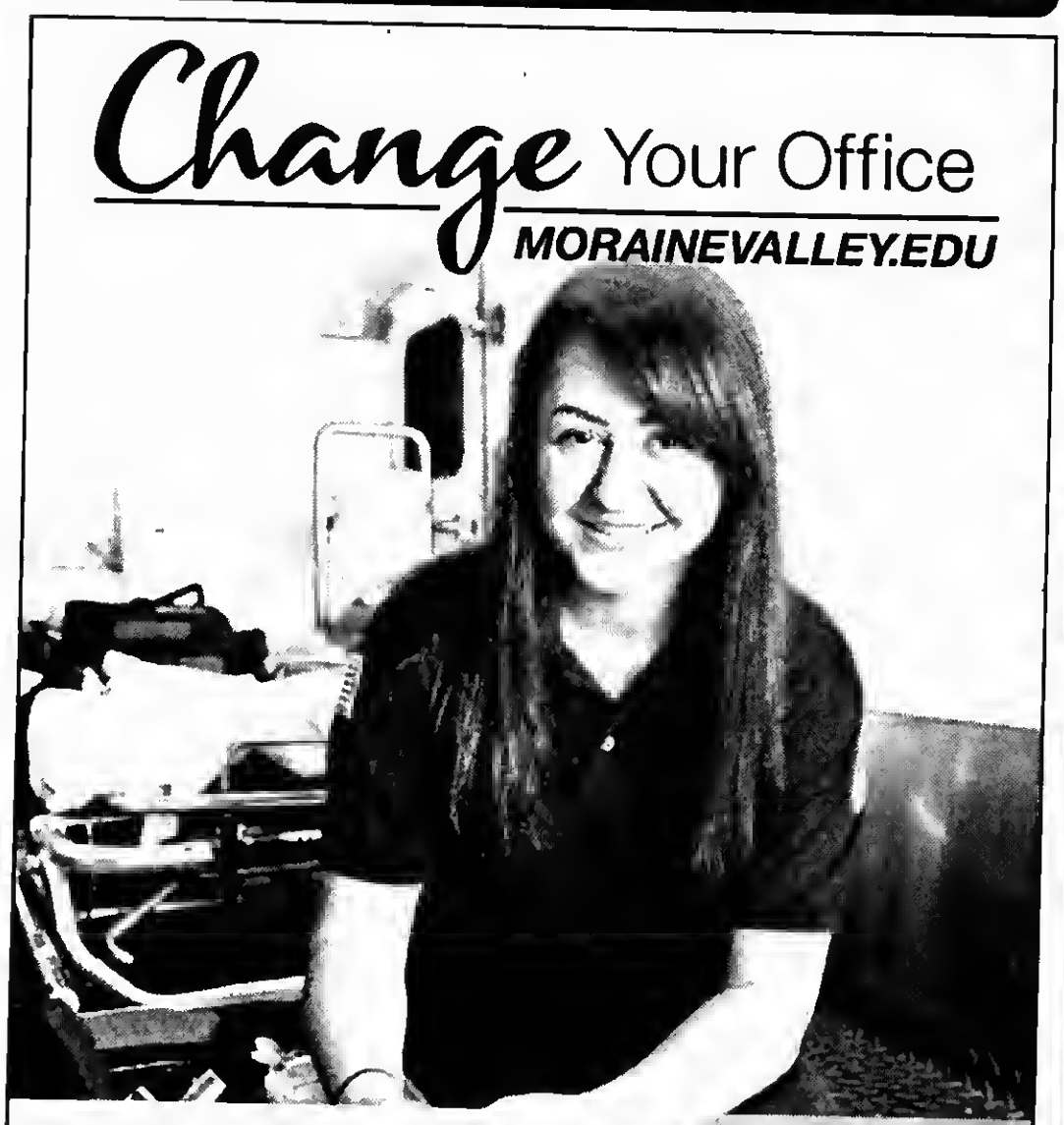

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LOURDES HALL CAMPUS FOR YOUNG WOMEN
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ENTRANCE EXAM FOR ALL STUDENTS
Saturday, January 11, 2014 at 8:00am
Institute Campus, 3434 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL
Please bring $25 test fee and No. 2 pencils

312.842.7355 www.dls.org

Anna Marie Marassa inducted into Shepard Hall of Fame.

De La Salle Institute proudly announces that faculty member Anna Marie Marassa has been inducted into the Shepard High School Hall of Fame.

Marassa serves De La Salle as the head girls varsity volleyball coach, having done so since De La Salle's Lourdes Hall Campus for Young Women opened at the beginning of the 2002-03 school year. In addition, Marassa teaches Health and Physical Education at the Lourdes Hall Campus, as well as serving as an assistant athletic director.

During her own high-school playing career, Marassa was a three-year starter for Shepard, garnering All-SICA West and then-Southtown Economist All-Area plaudits as a junior and senior.

Marassa then played collegiately at DePaul University before later serving as the Blue Demons' head coach for nine seasons. In 2007, she was enshrined in the DePaul University Athletic Hall of Fame.

This season, Marassa guided De La Salle's girls volleyball team to a 27-8 overall record and a 5-3 mark in the Girls Catholic Athletic Conference Red Division.

De La Salle congratulates Marassa on her achievements and wishes her every future success.

De La Salle Institute is an independent Catholic secondary school rooted in the tradition of Christian Education begun by St. John Baptist de La Salle. Founded in 1889, its mission has been, and is, to foster a desire for excellence in education. Young people from a variety of ethnic and economic backgrounds are given the opportunity to fully develop their abilities so they may be active, contributing members of our complex changing society.

De La Salle Institute Campus for Young Men is located at 3434 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60616

De La Salle Lourdes Hall Campus for Young Women is located at 1040 W. 32nd Pl., Chicago, IL 60608.

Visit http://www.dls.org/ for more information.

Queen of Peace students visit IIT's IDEA Shop

The student's from the engineering and small business classes at Queen of Peace High School recently visited the IDEA Shop at the IIT main campus. The Idea Shop™ is a 13,000 square foot facility composed of a state-of-the-art rapid-prototyping lab, collaborative teaming areas, formal classroom space, and storage areas for student use. The Idea Shop™ is home to IIT's Interprofessional Projects Program (IPRO), entrepreneurship initiatives, and summer programs.

The Queen of Peace students were visiting during entrepreneur week and our visit was hosted by Nik Rokop, the managing director of the Jules F. Knapp Entrepreneurship Center at the Illinois Institute of Technology. They started with a tour of the IDEA shop from current students, then had a tour of the main campus followed by a Q&A session with some of the IPRO members. "I enjoyed the idea lab, it was very interesting, especially the 3D printer," stated frosh Giselle Campos.

Many of the current IPRO students had either started businesses and sold them already, or were in the process of launching their business. "Some of the things that these kids had invented or thought of were very interesting to me. I really liked the way they presented themselves to us and I was very impressed," said frosh Mia Martinez.

Ellen Jordan Reidy and Diane Rink joined Queen of Peace on the trip. They are both Queen of Peace and IIT alum. Ellen is President and Founder of America's Food Technologies, Inc. (AMFOTEK®), a company specializing in products for the foodservice and specialty coffee industries. She is also a member of the Illinois Institute of Technology Board of Trustees and a very strong supporter of Queen of Peace. Diane is an engineer and wise woman of peace. She mentors our robotics and engineering students. Also in attendance was John Ason of the Angel Network at IIT. The IIT Angel Network is an executive level group of IIT alumni and Chicagoans who are angel/venture investors, entrepreneurs and innovators. The experience for the Queen of Peace students was inspiring and they walked away with very valuable information.

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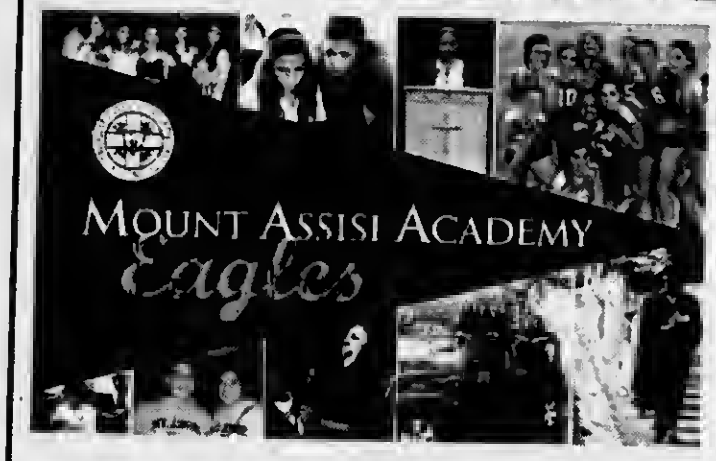

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A must see play this season

Once Upon A People: A Danceesical was written and directed by Black Ensemble Theater Associate Director Rueben D. Echoles and made possible through a generous grant from Chicago Community Trust.

Once Upon A People is an original African Fairytale that exemplifies the true power of love told through spoken word, beautiful music and exhilarating dance. It's a touching and warm adventure that is perfect for the holiday season. We will journey to the mystical land of Mirah where Prince Oba and Princess Erin take us on a fascinating mystical experience that teaches us to embrace the joy of living.

The cast features Alexis J. Rogers (Queen Imani), Donald Craig Manuel (King Babatunde), Eric Lewis (Prince Oba), Jazzelle Morriss (Princess Erin) and Claudia Cunningham (Zahara). Cast members playing various roles include: Camille Robinson,A'rese Emokpae, Trequon Tate, Mark J.P. Hood, LaRaia Gribble, La Dreauna Johnson, Kudzaishe Jeti, Kyle Smith and Aramie C. Payton.

The book and lyries for Once Upon A People are written by Rueben D. Echoles, with vocal and musical arrangements by Rueben D. Echoles, Alexis J. Rogers and Kelvin Roston, Jr.. As with all Black Ensemble productions, the production features outstanding musicians. The Musical Director is Kelvin Roston, Jr. and the band leader is Robert Reddrick. The production features students from Studio One, a Southside organization dedicated to providing professional dance classes for children for over 25 years.

Performances are Monday: Dec. 23 and 30 at 7:30 pm: Tuesday: Dec. 24 at 7:30 pm: Sunday: Dec. 22 and 29 at 7:30 pm. Black Ensemble Theater Cultural Center, 4450 N. Clark Street. Valet parking is available. Ticket prices: $45 for adults and $30 for children under 12.

We Three Lizas is at Stage 773

About Face Theatre's sparkly, queer holiday hit musical WE THREE LIZAS is back and better than ever, with a new book and expanded score! WE THREE LIZAS will play until January 5, 2014.

Box maker Conrad Ticklebottom's life has hit a block. Once, Conrad and his purple box ignited an entire movement in art and design, but now he finds himself alone, forgotten and teetering on ruin. The holidays bring three magical figures to his door, a trio of Liza Minnellis to escort him on a fabulous journey redeeming his lost promise and reinventing a brand-new Conrad Ticklebottom. It's an outrageous holiday musical tale of hope, transformation and the power of Liza! If you missed it last year, get your tickets now: it's bound to sell out again this year!

The Location: of Stage 773 is 1225 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago. We Three Lizas will run until Sunday, January 5, 2014. $45 adults $20 students. Group discounts available. Tickets are available online at www.aboutfacetheatre.com or www.stage773.com, in person at the Stage 773 Box Office (1225 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago) or by calling (773) 327-5252. Additional processing fees apply for phone and internet orders.

The Apollo Chorus holiday concerts and choral classics

The Apollo Chorus, directed by Stephen Alltop, arrived on Saturday, December 7th singing Handel's Messiah at Orchestra Hall at the Symphony Center. There is one more chance to hear and see the Messiah performance on December 21 at 3:00 pm at The Harris Theater for Music and Dance at 205 E. Randolph St.

Handel's Messiah is not just their only performance, the chorus continues in February with Choral Classics-Mozart's Great Mass in C and Dvorak's Te Deum on Saturday, February 22 at the University of Chicago's Rockefeller Chapel, 5850 S. Woodlawn Ave, they also have a Spring Concert.

For more information contact, The Apollo Chorus at 312-427-5620 or visit www.apollochorus.org

The Christmas Schooner

Our former Evergreen Park, southside resident, Jim Sherman, is still acting and has been for 59 years. He is a member of Actors Equity Association and has received several nominations for the Jeff Award. Jim did receive a Non-Equity Jeff Award for his performance in Sin, A Cardinal Deposed and he also won Boston's IRNE Award for best visiting production.

Jim has had the part of Gustav for several years and enjoys every word of The Christmas Schooner. It is a wonderful story as the message is still active on the shores of Lake Michigan.

You can see this play until December 29th at Mercury Theater Chicago, 3745 North Southport and tickets can be purchased from $20 to $55 at Mercury Theater at 773-325-1700 or mercurytheaterchicago.com

Chicago Shakespeare Theatre presents The Merry Wives of Windsor

Artistic Director Barbara Gaines directs William Shakespeare's The Merry Wives of Windsor, considered by many to be the first situation comedy, with a stellar cast of actors who have tread the boards in dozens of productions at CST. One of Shakespeare's most popular comedies, The Merry Wives of Windsor is an energetic romp with the lovable rouge Sir John Falstaff, performed by Scott Jaeck, seeking to repair his depleted fortunes by wooing the two most prominent women in Windsor. He sets his sights on Mistress Page and Mistress Ford performed by Kelli Fox and Heidi Kettenring; but his plans go awry as the Windsor wives see through his intrigues and dupe him repeatedly.

Chicago Shakespeare's production transports audiences to postwar England in the late 1940s with a soundtrack of the spirited dance music that energized the era. The play is fast moving with load of laughs. The Merry Wives of Windsor is in performances in CST's Courtyard Theater now through January 19, 2014.

Lookingglass Theatre Company announces an extension

The Little Prince is produced in Association with The Actors Gymnasium, by Rick Cummins and John Scoullar, based on the book by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, and directed by Ensemble Member David Catlin.

The show now runs through Sunday, February 23, 2014 and the location is Water Tower Water Works, 821 N. Michigan Ave. at Pearson. Tickets are $45 to $75.

Derrick Agnoletti as Snow Prince photo: by Herbert Migdoll

Joffrey Ballet celebrates their 26th annual performance of The Nutcracker

America's Number 1 Nutcracker, has had 23 performance engagements at the Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University, 50 E. Congress Parkway. The Chicago Philharmonic, led by Joffrey Music Director Scott Speck, provides live accompaniment of the classic score by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky for every performance. This year it was great watching Temur Suluashvilli as the Snow King and Christine Rocas as the Snow Queen; Derrick Agnoletti as the Snow Prince and Dylan Gutierrez as the Nutcracker Prince and April Daly as the Sugar Plum Fairy.

The classic performance of The Nutcracker was outstanding and very entertaining through the success of Artistic Director, Ashley Wheater and Executive Director, Greg Cameron, along with the Artists of the Company: Scott Speck, Music Director, Nicolas Blanc, Ballet Master, Gerard Charles, Ballet Master, Graca Sales, Ballet Master and Principal Coach.

Robert Joffrey's The Nutcracker will continue their performances until December 28, tickets are available at the Auditorium Theatre box office or by phone at 800-982-2787 or online at www.ticketmaster.com

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The cure for the cold weather is a warm heart

Your generous donation will insure that individuals with disabilities have a warm coat this year.

With the cold weather upon us, Sertoma Centre, Inc. wants to make sure that the more than 725 individuals we serve with developmental disabilities and/or mental illness have adequate winter outerwear. Our staff has identified more than 30 individuals who are in need of winter coats this season. We are asking for your help in providing funds to help cover the cost of purchasing coats for these individuals. We will also be supplying food baskets for 15-20 of our consumers and their families who need extra assistance at this time of the year. Holiday donations will also be used to cover these costs.

Your generosity can make a difference in the life of a person with disabilities and make you feel all warm inside, too. It's a wonderful way to start the holiday season. Sertoma Centre is thankful to all who give and support individuals with disabilities! If you would like to help, contact Amy Chmura, Director of Advancement and Communications, at 708-730-6206 or send your check today to Sertoma Centre, Inc. Foundation, Attn: Coat/Food Drive, 4343 West 123rd Street, Alsip, IL 60803.

Byron is pleased with his new winter coat. Your generosity will make a difference for Byron and make you feel all warm inside, too.

For more information regarding Sertoma Centre, to schedule a tour, volunteer, or to make a donation, please contact Amy Chmura, Director of Advancement and Communications, (708)730-6206 or achmura@sertomacentre.org, at Sertoma Centre, 4343 West 123rd Street, Alsip, IL 60803. www.sertomacentre.org.

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Studies show personal support is key to weight loss success

(NAPSA)-For many, achieving lasting weight loss is more than a matter of avoiding foods they crave. Rather, it's a matter of living a healthier lifestyle.

Studies show that food choice is only part of the equation-of those who have proper personal support and useful tools, nearly 80 percent manage to achieve and maintain successful weight loss.

For example, The Dukan Diet, the physician-formulated lifestyle weight loss program, consists of four phases and offers its members personalized daily online coaching with advice directly from Dr. Dukan.

The simplicity and personal support of The Dukan Diet, have made it the go-to lifestyle plan of celebrities and royalty worldwide. At www.DukanDiet.com, members and visitors can access a number of weight loss resources. These include:

• True Weight Calculator: Visitors can learn their True Weight and

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(Continued from previous page)

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• Weight Loss Recipes: Hundreds of Dukan Diet recipes and cooking tips for successful weight loss, including several daily menus.

Here are two examples of flavorful and easy-to-prepare Dukan Diet recipes. Each is suitable beginning in the second phase of The Dukan Diet:

Chicken and Pepper Kebabs
Preparation Time: 30 minutes
Servings: 4
Cooking Time: 10 minutes
Complexity: Easy
Ingredients:
4 boneless skinless chicken breasts, cut into 3/4" cubes
4 garlic cloves, peeled and chopped
1/4 cup fresh lemon juice
1 tsp. ground cumin
1 tsp. thyme
Salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste
1 green or red pepper, seeds removed and cut into cubes
8 shallots, peeled and quartered
Directions:
1. Place chicken in a shallow dish and toss with the garlic, lemon juice, cumin, thyme, salt and pepper to taste.
2. Cover and refrigerate overnight.
3. After marinating, preheat the oven to broil or grill to high.
4. Thread the kebabs by alternating the pieces of chicken, pepper and shallot.
5. Brush the kebabs with the marinade and cook on the barbecue or under the broiler, 5 minutes on each side.

Note: You will need kebab sticks. If you are using wood_en skewers, soak them in water for at least 30 minutes so they won't burn.

Dukan Scones
Preparation Time: 12 minutes
Servings: 4
Cooking Time: 8 minutes
Complexity: Easy
Ingredients:
3 Tbsp. Dukan Diet Organic Oat Bran
3 Tbsp. cornstarch (tolerated)
1/16 tsp. Dukan Diet Organic Stevia
1 egg, separated
1 Tbsp. fat-free cottage cheese
2 Tbsp. fat-free plain Greek yogurt
3 strawberries (or 2 Tbsp. Dukan Diet Goji Berries) (tolerated)
Directions:
1. Preheat the oven to 400° F.
2. Place the oat bran and cornstarch into a bowl and stir in the Stevia.
3. Whisk the egg white until stiff.
4. Whisk together the egg yolk and fat-free cottage cheese.
5. Fold the egg white into the egg yolk mixture and then fold into the oat bran mixture.
6. Divide mixture into 4 servings onto a cookie sheet and cook for 8-10 minutes.
7. Leave to cool on a rack.
8. Serve topped with a drizzle of Greek yogurt and a few strawberry slices or goji berries.

Celebrate NYE with Stony Creek

Bring in the New Year with the Oak Lawn Park District's Stony Creek Clubhouse, 5850 W. 103rd St. on Tuesday, December 31st. Celebrate the last day of 2013 with a night filled with music and great food.

Enjoy a special dinner menu that includes steak or chicken from 8:00-9:00pm. After dinner, the Katie Sullivan Band will provide the entertainment starting at 9:30pm and a champagne toast will take place at midnight. A cash bar will be available.

Dinner and entertainment cost is $35 (does not include gratuity).

Make your reservation today by calling 708-.398-6284 or emailing bfairman@olparks.com. Deadline to RSVP is Friday, December 27.

Meeting notice

The Moraine Valley Community College Board of Trustees will meet for its regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, December 18. The meeting will take place in the Board Room, D219, on campus, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills. A public hearing on a proposed tax levy for Tax Year 2013 will precede the regular meeting at 6 p.m.

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